

Yorkshire Agricultural Society



Tuesday 14 – Friday 17 July 2026

Patron: His Majesty King Charles III
President: Nick Fox Lane
Show Director: Rachel Coates

SHEARING COMPETITIONS

**Entries Close: Thursday
11 June 2026**

Late entries will be accepted on the day, dependent on the availability of sheep. BISCA Rules apply regarding late fees.

**We are now using an online system; please go to our website -
www.greatyorkshireshow.co.uk - to make your entries.
In order to qualify for an advanced pass you must enter
by Thursday 11 June 2026**

Livestock & Entries Dept, Yorkshire Agricultural Society, Regional
Agricultural Centre, Harrogate, North Yorkshire, HG2 8NZ

www.greatyorkshireshow.co.uk

The Great Yorkshire Show raises funds for the Yorkshire Agricultural Society to help
support farming and the Countryside.

SHEARING TIMETABLE - GREAT YORKSHIRE SHOW 2026

Tuesday 8:00am

National Young
Farmers
Young Farmers - Heats

Break (30 minutes)

Junior – Heats
Intermediate – Heats

Lunch Break (1 hr)

National Young Farmers -Final

Young Farmers - Final

Juniors - Semi Final

Intermediates – Semi Final

Break (30 mins)

Yorkshire Intermediate
Shearer of the Year

Junior - Final

Intermediates – Final

Presentation of Prizes

Wednesday 8:30am

Senior - Heats

Open - Heats

Break (30 mins)

Senior - Semi Final

Open - Semi Final

Lunch Break (1 hr)

Senior Test

Open Test

Break (30 mins)

Open Yorkshire Shearer
of the year- Final

Open Test
Senior - Final

Open - Final

Presentation of Prizes

Thursday 8:00am

Wool Handling - Novice

Wool Handling - Open

Heats

Wool Handling - Final

Break (30 mins)

Intermediate Blade -
Heats

Open Blade - Heats

Lunch Break (1 hr)

Ladies – Heats

Veterans - Heats

Yorkshire Ladies - Final

Break (30 mins)

Blade - Final

Ladies - Final

Veterans - Final

Presentation of Prizes

**Great Yorkshire Show Shearing Competitions kindly
supported by:**

British Wool

George Mudge and Co ?

Lister Shearing Equipment Ltd?

National Sheep Association

Northern Nutrition

Dugdale Nutrition

Swaledale Sheep Breeders Association

Derbyshire Gritstone Sheep Breeders Association

Worship Company of Woolmen

Company of Merchants of the Staple of England

**Please note there will be a Grinder at this
year's Great Yorkshire Show.**

**NATIONAL FEDERATION OF YOUNG FARMERS' CLUBS ARE
HOLDING THE
FINAL OF THE NFYFC SHEEP SHEARING COMPETITION 2026
HERE AT THE GREAT YORKSHIRE SHOW
ON TUESDAY 15th July 2026. START TIME 8AM**

Individuals have qualified through Area Finals throughout England and Wales

**For further details please contact: Margaret.Bennett@nfyfc.org.uk
<http://nfyfc.org.uk>**

CLASSES HELD ON TUESDAY 14 - THURSDAY 17 JULY 2026

ALL COMPETITIONS WILL BE HELD UNDER BISCA RULES

For general enquiries please contact Amanda Stoddart-West on 01423 546231, Alice Gill on 01423 546236 or Billie Wilson on 01423 546206

For late entry enquiries please contact Richard Wilson on 07730 654448.

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### **JUDGES**

|                 |                 |
|-----------------|-----------------|
| Mr R Dixon      | Mr I Lancaster  |
| Mr A Barratt    | Mr I Montgomery |
| Mr A Bell       | Mr E Odell      |
| Mr A Bell-Percy | Ms G Paewai     |
| Mr C Chomse     | Mr N Potter     |
| Mr J I Davies   | Mr R Price      |
| Mr A Derryman   | Mr A Rankin     |
| Mr J Froggatt   | Mr A Spencer    |
| Mr C McGregor   | Mr D Wykes      |
|                 | Ms K Greaves    |

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The Worshipful Company of Woolmen Junior Circuit

Final to be held at the Royal Welsh Show

- Open to shearers under 26 years old on the 1st May 2026, holding a Blue or Bronze Seal qualification but having not reached a Silver Seal.
- Shearers only to have shorn in the UK.
- Overseas competitors including Southern Ireland are not eligible.
- The winner will receive a cheque for £50, a Bronze Medal, plus a £50 voucher to attend a further Wool Board Course.
- The second placed competitor will receive a cheque for £25, plus receive a £50 voucher.
- The two qualifying young shearers will be eligible to go forward to the final to shear with 8 other British Qualifiers.
- Prize Money for the final is 1st £350, 2nd £250, 3rd £200, 4th £175, 5th £125.
- The remaining 5 competitors will receive £100 each.

TUESDAY - 8.00AM START

CLASS 1 THE YOUNG FARMERS CLUBS COMPETITION

PRIZE MONEY: £200 **EF: £16.00**

1st	£50	4th	£30
2nd	£40	5th	£25
3rd	£35	6th	£20

Prize cards for all 6 prize winners.

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### **CLASS 2 THE JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIP - HEATS**

**Kindly sponsored By The Worshipful Company Of Woolmen**

Restricted to Junior Shearers who hold a minimum qualification of a Blue Seal.

The winner will be awarded a perpetual Championship trophy and Keepsake, plus BWMB voucher & Woolmens Bronze medal prize cards for all 6 prize winners & Special certificate & £10 to the most improved Young Farmer

**PRIZE MONEY: £375**    **EF: £16.00**

|     |      |
|-----|------|
| 1st | £125 |
| 2nd | £80  |
| 3rd | £65  |
| 4th | £50  |
| 5th | £35  |
| 6th | £20  |

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CLASS 3 THE INTERMEDIATE CHAMPIONSHIP - HEATS

PRIZE MONEY: £480 **EF: £16.00**

Kindly sponsored By The Worshipful Company Of Woolmen

The winner will be awarded a Perpetual Championship Trophy & keepsake, plus BWMB Voucher & Woolmens Bronze Medal.

Prize cards for all 6 prize winners

Junior and Intermediate shearers are required to turn sheep for judging.

1st	£180
2nd	£90
3rd	£75
4th	£60
5th	£45
6th	£30

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### **NATIONAL YOUNG FARMERS FINAL**

### **YOUNG FARMERS FINAL**

### **JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIP SEMI FINAL**

### **INTERMEDIATE SEMI FINAL**

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YORKSHIRE INTERMEDIATE SHEARER OF THE YEAR

JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIP FINAL

INTERMEDIATE CHAMPIONSHIP FINAL

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### **PRESENTATIONS**

**British Wool have kindly supplied the Singlets.**

*Please see the timetable for the order of heats, semi-finals, and finals on each day.*

## **WEDNESDAY - 8.30AM START**

### **CLASS 4 THE SENIOR CHAMPIONSHIP - HEATS**

**Kindly supported by The National Sheep Association**

The winner will be awarded a Perpetual Championship Trophy offered by Ciba-Geigy animal Health.

Prize cards for all 6 prize winners.

**PRIZE MONEY: £510**

**EF: £16.00**

|     |      |
|-----|------|
| 1st | £200 |
| 2nd | £100 |
| 3rd | £75  |
| 4th | £60  |
| 5th | £45  |
| 6th | £30  |

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CLASS 5 THE OPEN CHAMPIONSHIP - HEATS

Kindly sponsored By Lister Shearing Equipment

The winner will be awarded a Perpetual Championship Trophy offered by Ciba-Geigy animal Health.

Prize cards for all 6 prize winners.

PRIZE MONEY: £1500

EF: £16.00

1st	£700
2nd	£330
3rd	£220
4th	£110
5th	£80
6th	£60

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## **SENIOR CHAMPIONSHIP - SEMI FINAL**

## **OPEN CHAMPIONSHIP - SEMI FINAL**

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SENIOR TEST

OPEN TEST

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## **CH 1 - OPEN YORKSHIRE SHEARER OF THE YEAR(only open to competitors who permanently reside in Yorkshire) – FINAL**

**Not a pre entered competition**

**1st prize offered by The Swaledale Sheep Breeders Association**

Prize cards for all 6 prize winners.

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SENIOR CHAMPIONSHIP FINAL

OPEN CHAMPIONSHIP FINAL

British Wool have kindly supplied the Singlets.

Please see the timetable for the order of heats, semi-finals, and finals on each day.

THURSDAY - 8.00AM START

CLASS 6 WOOL HANDLING NOVICE

Prize cards for all 6 prize winners.

PRIZE MONEY: £350

EF: £16.00

1st	£100
2nd	£80
3rd	£65
4th	£50
5th	£35
6th	£20

CLASS 7 WOOL HANDLING - OPEN HEATS

Prize cards for all 6 prize winners.

PRIZE MONEY: £350

EF: £16.00

1st	£100
2nd	£80
3rd	£65
4th	£50
5th	£35
6th	£20

WOOL HANDLING - OPEN FINALS

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### **CLASS 8 BLADE SHEARING INTERMEDIATE HEATS**

**Class kindly supported by the  
National Sheep Association**

Prize cards for all 6 prize winners.

**PRIZE MONEY: £350**

**EF: £16.00**

|     |      |
|-----|------|
| 1st | £100 |
| 2nd | £80  |
| 3rd | £65  |
| 4th | £50  |
| 5th | £35  |
| 6th | £20  |

### **CLASS 9 BLADE SHEARING - OPEN HEATS**

The winner will be awarded a Perpetual Championship Trophy kindly donated by George Mudge & Co, and keepsake.

Prize cards for all 6 prize winners

**PRIZE MONEY: £350**

**EF: £16.00**

|     |      |
|-----|------|
| 1st | £100 |
| 2nd | £80  |
| 3rd | £65  |
| 4th | £50  |
| 5th | £35  |
| 6th | £20  |

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CLASS 10 THE LADIES OPEN - HEATS

**Kindly sponsored By The Worshipful Company Of
Woolmen**

Prize cards for all 6 prize winners.

PRIZE MONEY: £480

EF: £16.00

1st	£180
2nd	£90
3rd	£75
4th	£60
5th	£45
6th	£30

CLASS 11 VETERANS - SHEARING HEATS

Restricted to competitors 50 years of age and over.
Prize cards for all 6 prize winners.

**This class is kindly supported by
Northern Nutrition Minerals**

<u>PRIZE MONEY: £370</u>		<u>EF: £16.00</u>
1st	£100	
2nd	£80	
3rd	£65	
4th	£50	
5th	£45	
6th	£30	

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**CLASS 12 THE YORKSHIRE LADIES - FINAL**

Prize cards for all 6 prize winners.

|                                 |      |                          |
|---------------------------------|------|--------------------------|
| <b><u>PRIZE MONEY: £370</u></b> |      | <b><u>EF: £16.00</u></b> |
| 1st                             | £100 |                          |
| 2nd                             | £80  |                          |
| 3rd                             | £65  |                          |
| 4th                             | £50  |                          |
| 5th                             | £45  |                          |
| 6th                             | £30  |                          |

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BLADE SHEARING - FINALS

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**LADIES OPEN - FINALS**

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VETERAN - FINALS

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**British Wool have kindly supplied the Singlets.**

*Please see the timetable for the order of heats, semi-finals,  
and finals on each day.*





# ENGLISH SHEEP SHEARING CIRCUIT 2026

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Burgon & Ball  
SHEPHERD ENGLAND SINCE 1730



Many thanks to all Sponsors of the English Circuit and to all Sponsors of Team England

## AFFILIATION TO THE CIRCUIT:

Forms are available to download from the England Shearing facebook page and upon request from [englandshearing@gmail.com](mailto:englandshearing@gmail.com)

The Circuit will run in the form of a league table. In each category, the top ten placings of English Competitors will be awarded points; 1<sup>st</sup>-10, 2<sup>nd</sup>-9, 3<sup>rd</sup>-8, 4<sup>th</sup>-7, 5<sup>th</sup>-6, 6<sup>th</sup>-5, 7<sup>th</sup>-4, 8<sup>th</sup>-3, 9<sup>th</sup>-2, 10<sup>th</sup>-1

For the **OPEN Machine Shearing only**, 1 bonus point will be awarded for making the top 6 and 2 bonus points will be awarded to the winner of each competition.

### **COST AND DEADLINE:**

The cost of affiliation is £15 per circuit category - OR £10 per circuit category if received by 30/04/2026 Please note: The final deadline date for affiliation to the 2026 Circuit is 01/06/2026. We will extend the closing date for **All junior/novice** categories to 01.06.26

No entries will be accepted if received after this date.

**PRIZE-GIVING:** (to top six places) to take place at Great Yorkshire Show

**Machine Shearing** - to take place at Northern Blades on 18th July 2026  
**Blade Shearing** - to take place at Northern Blades on 18th July 2026  
**Woolhandling** - to take place at Great Yorkshire Show

- Sashes are sponsored by NEMSA, Skipton Branch
- Prizes are sponsored by Lister Shearing, Burgon & Ball and NAAC
- The top three prize-winners in each of the Machine shearing category will also receive a special invitation to tour the Lister factory (date tba). In the event that the top three are unable to attend, places will offered on a first-come, first-serve basis.

## MACHINE SHEARING: OPEN, SENIOR, INTERMEDIATE AND JUNIOR

**The Circuit** - North Somerset, Southern Shears, Devon County, Northumberland, Staffordshire Show, Royal Bath & West, Royal Cornwall, Royal Three Counties, Royal Highland Show, Great Yorkshire Show, Northumberland show (10 shows) .

Open Shearers- highest points from **SEVEN** shows will be taken. Senior Shearers- highest points from **SIX** shows will be taken. Intermediate Shearers- highest points from **FIVE** shows will be taken. Junior Shearers- highest points from **FIVE** shows will be taken.

Prizes, kindly donated by **Lister Shearing Equipment Ltd.**

### BLADE SHEARING: OPEN

**The Circuit** - North Somerset, Southern Shears, Royal Balmoral, Devon County, Northumberland, Staffs Show, Royal Bath & West, Royal Three Counties, Great Yorkshire, Royal Highland Show, Northern Blades (11 shows)

Blade Shearers (Open) – highest points from **SIX** shows will be taken, Intermediate & Junior Shearers- highest points from FIVE shows will be taken

Prizes, kindly donated by **Burgon and Ball.**

### WOOLHANDLING: OPEN

**The Circuit** - Royal Welsh Show 2025 results, Royal Balmoral, Devon County, Staffordshire Show, Northumberland, Royal Bath & West, Royal Highland, Royal Three Counties, Great Yorkshire, with the Royal Welsh 2026 carried forward to 2027 (9 shows)

Woolhandlers (Open, Intermediate and Junior/Novice) - highest points from **FOUR** shows will be taken (to include points from Royal Welsh 2025 show) points from Royal Welsh 2026 carried forward as first points on 2027 circuit

Prizes, kindly donated by **NAAC**

**SHOW DATES:** The show dates will be published in Newsclip 2026 (available April 2026) and will also be posted on the England Shearing facebook page as soon as they become known.

**PLEASE NOTE - IN THE EVENT OF A DRAW** (in any category) the result will be determined by the final scores:

**Machine Shearing** at the Great Yorkshire Show  
**Blade Shearing** at the Northern Blades  
**Woolhandling** at the Great Yorkshire Show

# **SHEEP SHEARING COMPETITION S RULES AND REGULATIONS**

**Please note that the general conditions and regulations also apply to this section.**

- 1** Entries must be made online before the date stated on the front of this schedule in order to guarantee participation in the shearing competitions.
- 2 Please see GYS Regulation 2 regarding late entries.**
- 3** Entry Fees are as follows:

**£16.00 PER CLASS**

**PLEASE NOTE: Entry fees have been updated since the printing of Newsclip.**

**Please note that class 6 cannot be pre-entered** as you will need to qualify for this from the relevant classes.

*£1.00 of each entry fee will go towards the English Circuit.* The entry fees are all inclusive of VAT.

**Late entries may be taken at Show dependant on the number of sheep available. BISCA Rules apply regarding late fees. Once at Show, late entrants can obtain a claim form from the shearing area to submit to the Society for reimbursement of 50% of the gate admission fee.**

**EACH COMPETITOR WHOSE ENTRY IS RECEIVED BEFORE THE ENTRY CLOSE DATE, WILL RECEIVE ONE FREE EXHIBITOR'S DAY PASS FOR ADMISSION TO THE SHOW.**

- 4** If there are insufficient entries received at the time of closing, the Society reserves the right to cancel the competition(s) and return the entry fees.
- 5** Should there be sufficient entries a 'Shear Off', at the discretion of the Chief Steward will take place between the first six Shearers to decide the final placings.
- 6** Shearing will take place on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday of Show. Competitors will be required to report to the Steward at a specified time, notification of which will be sent in writing before the Show. All competitors must report to the Chief Steward at the time stated otherwise they will be unable to compete. Changing facilities will be provided.
- 7** Any competitor making equipment unsafe, or supplying and using their own unsafe equipment, will be instantly disqualified by the Stewards and any prize money won, will be forfeited.
- 8** During the competition all electrical equipment must remain on the stage at all times.

# **YORKSHIRE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY**

## **GREAT YORKSHIRE SHOW REGULATIONS AND INFORMATION 2026**

**Please observe the following rules for your safety, the smooth running of the Show and the enjoyment of all who visit the Show in any capacity.**

### **Show Opening Times**

**Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday: 8.00am to 6.00pm**

#### **1. Entry Fees/Forms**

Entry fees and closing dates are stated at the front of the Schedule and on the entry form or online entry system. All entries must be accompanied by full payment, and **entries received after the stated closing date will not be accepted**. The Society reserves the right to refuse any entry without being required to provide a reason. Owners of livestock and equine are eligible for reduced entry fees provided they are current Single, Joint or Life Members of the Yorkshire Agricultural Society, with membership valid for the current year either by prior payment of the annual subscription or by payment at the time of entry. Junior or Intermediate Members may upgrade their membership in order to benefit from the reduced entry fees.

#### **2. Cancellation, Combining of Classes and Withdrawal**

The Society reserves the right to cancel or combine classes where there are insufficient entries or exhibitors. Where a class is cancelled by the Society, entry fees for that class will be refunded. Exhibitors wishing to withdraw from the Show for any reason must notify the Livestock and Entries Department in writing by email, providing the reason for withdrawal. Requests will be considered on an individual basis and may vary between sections; exhibitors should also refer to the relevant Breed Regulations where applicable.

#### **3. Checking of Entry Details**

Exhibitors are solely responsible for ensuring the eligibility of animals entered and for checking that all entry details are complete and accurate at the time of submission. Requests to amend incorrect details may be subject to an administration fee. Entry fees will not be refunded where animals are entered that are later found to be ineligible.

#### **4. Substitution of entries is not permitted**, unless expressly allowed within the relevant individual section Regulations.

#### **5. Competitor and Exhibitor Declaration**

By completing an entry form in any section, the competitor or exhibitor agrees to comply with the Regulations, Codes of Conduct and requirements of the Yorkshire Agricultural Society, both in their content and spirit. Any exhibitor who breaches these Regulations or seeks to gain an unfair advantage may be subject to disqualification, sanctions or exclusion in accordance with these Regulations, including forfeiture of prizes and exclusion from future Shows.

#### **6. Disputes**

In the event of any dispute, all parties must follow the procedure set out in the Disqualification, Sanctions and Exclusion Orders contained within these Regulations (Sections 33–50).

## **7. Breed Society and Governing Body Regulations**

Any exhibitor competing under the auspices of a breed society or governing body shall be deemed to have agreed to comply with the rules of that organisation, in addition to these Show Regulations.

## **8. Emergency Veterinary Treatment**

As a condition of entry, exhibitors agree that the Society's Veterinary Surgeons may administer emergency treatment to any animal where this is considered necessary, whether or not the owner or exhibitor is present at the time. Where emergency treatment is provided, the exhibitor will be responsible for the cost of any medication or drugs administered, and payment must be made directly to the Veterinary Surgeons. Animals that have received veterinary treatment prior to the Show should not be entered for competition unless examined by the exhibitor's own Veterinary Surgeon and deemed fit to compete. Any animal showing clinical signs of illness or infection, including ringworm, must not be brought onto the Showground and will not be permitted to be shown. On arrival at the Showground, if an exhibitor has any doubt or concern regarding an animal's health, the Show Veterinary Surgeons must be contacted immediately; their decision as to whether the animal is fit to remain on the Showground shall be final. Exhibitors should also refer to Regulation 32.

## **9. Fitness to Travel / Transport of Pregnant Animals**

Animals must be fit for the intended journey before travel begins and must remain sufficiently fit throughout the journey. This means the animal must be healthy enough to tolerate the entire journey, including loading, unloading and any journey breaks, without suffering injury or undue distress. Transport must be designed, constructed, maintained and operated so as to avoid injury and suffering and to ensure the safety of the animals. For the purposes of these Regulations, a journey includes the period from the loading of the first animal to the unloading of the last animal. Any animal entered for the Show that is not fit to travel must remain at the holding premises. The transport of pregnant animals where 90% or more of the expected gestation period has elapsed, or of animals that have given birth within the previous seven days, is prohibited. Animals to which these criteria apply must not be brought onto the Showground under any circumstances. These requirements are in accordance with Council Regulation (EC) No. 1/2005, as implemented by the Welfare of Animals (Transport) (England) Order 2006.

## **10. Entry to the Show**

Exhibitor tickets will be issued in the form of wristbands and allocated in accordance with the details provided on the entry form. Additional day tickets may be purchased in advance and should be ordered at the time of entry. Advance ticket prices are: Adult £36.50; Child £13.00 (ages 5–18); Family £89.00 (two adults and three children).

**11.** Prize money will be paid by bank transfer following the Show. Exhibitors must provide valid bank details at the time of entry in order for any prize money to be paid. Where no bank details are provided, it will be assumed that any prize money is donated to the Yorkshire Agricultural Society. All prize money will be paid by the end of August in the current year.

12. No exhibit may be covered during Show opening hours. Only rosettes or prize cards awarded at the Great Yorkshire Show in the current year may be displayed, and these are displayed at the owner's risk. Duplicate rosettes or prize cards will not be supplied.
13. All exhibitors, stockpersons and grooms must be appropriately dressed at all times. Exhibitors are under the jurisdiction of the Judge for the duration of the class or parade and must remain in the ring until the class has been completed, unless instructed otherwise by the Judge or the Steward.
14. The Judge has the discretion to withhold any prize where, in their opinion, there is insufficient merit.
15. Any protest must be submitted in writing within two hours of the relevant class being judged and must be accompanied by a deposit of £50. Protests must be lodged at the Show Office. Each protest will be considered by a Committee chaired by the Show Director or the Society Manager, whose decision shall be final. Where a protest is deemed by the Show Director or the Society Manager to constitute a dispute, it will be dealt with in accordance with the Disqualification, Sanctions and Exclusion Orders contained within these Regulations. Where a protest is not upheld, the deposit may be forfeited at the Society's discretion. This is a general regulation, and exhibitors should note that Individual Section Regulations relating to protests may differ.

All Yorkshire Agricultural Society cups and trophies are perpetual and may not be won outright. Cups and trophies may be collected from the Show Office during Show days on production of the winner's slip issued in the ring and will not be posted after the Show. Cups and trophies must be returned to the Society's Office by no later than 12 March 2027, at the exhibitor's expense; this is a condition of taking the cup or trophy. When returning trophies, exhibitors must ensure that correct details are provided for engraving purposes. **Exhibitors must not arrange for Yorkshire Agricultural Society cups or trophies to be engraved**, as all engraving will be carried out by the Society upon return and only at its appointment. Due to the age and value of certain cups and trophies listed in the Schedules, the Society may, at its discretion, offer a memento or tankard in place of the original cup or trophy, although the winner's details will still be added to the relevant cup or trophy for record and posterity.

22. Dogs and other pets are not permitted on the Showground, including car parks and camping areas, except for Assistance Dogs and animals taking part in authorised competitive classes or events.

23. Any exhibitor who removes an exhibit before the permitted time, as set out in the relevant Schedule, shall be deemed to be in breach of these Regulations. Such action will be classified as a Major Breach (as defined) and will be dealt with in accordance with the Disqualification, Sanctions and Exclusion Orders contained within these Regulations.

## 24. Responsibilities of Exhibitors

Exhibitors are responsible for ensuring they arrive on the Showground in sufficient time for the commencement of their classes. All ring timetables are provisional and may be subject to change, and the Society will not accept responsibility for any exhibitor missing their class or classes.

## **25. Conditions of Admittance**

All persons entering the Showground and car parks do so at their own risk. Vehicles, together with their accessories and contents, are parked at the owner's risk. While the Society takes reasonable steps to ensure the safety of persons and property, it shall not be responsible for loss of or damage to vehicles or property, except where liability cannot be excluded or limited by law.

## **26. No Smoking**

All enclosed and substantially enclosed areas of the Showground are smoke-free. This includes smoking, the use of e-cigarettes and vaping. Smoke-free areas include, but are not limited to, permanent buildings, temporary structures, tents, marquees or similar, stables, cattle sheds, sheep, pig and goat lines, and the Main Ring and White Rose Ring grandstands. Any person found to be in breach of this requirement may be subject to enforcement action and may be excluded from future Shows.

## **27. Animal Welfare**

Any person who causes suffering to, or treats an animal in a cruel or inappropriate manner, will be deemed to have committed a Major Breach of these Regulations. In considering any such breach, first-instance adjudicators and any subsequent Appeal Panel will have regard to the sanctions set out in these Regulations, which may include:

- (a) the imposition of a lifetime Exclusion Order preventing the individual from exhibiting and/or attending the Show;
- (b) forfeiture of entry fees, prizes and prize money; and
- (c) referral of the matter to relevant enforcement or regulatory bodies, which may include the Police, North Yorkshire Council Trading Standards, APHA, the RSPCA and/or the relevant Breed Association.

**The sale of animals at the Show, including within vehicle parks, is not permitted under any circumstances.**

## **28. Health and Safety**

All exhibitors must comply with applicable health and safety and fire safety legislation and with the document titled Working Safely at the Great Yorkshire Show. Failure to do so may result in enforcement action by North Yorkshire Council Environmental Health and/or North Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service. Livestock must be under the control of a competent and experienced handler at all times and restrained using equipment that is safe, suitable and fit for purpose. The movement of livestock includes areas used by members of the public, including routes between livestock lines and judging rings, and exhibitors must ensure appropriate control measures are in place at all times to prevent animals from escaping or causing injury. For Young Handler classes involving children under the age of 14, a parent or responsible adult must be present at the ringside and immediately available should assistance be required. Livestock exhibitors shall indemnify the Yorkshire Agricultural Society against any loss, damage or liability arising from a

failure to provide competent handlers or to comply with these Regulations and Working Safely at the Great Yorkshire Show.

## **29. Disclaimer**

Nothing in these Regulations shall operate to exclude or limit the liability of the Yorkshire Agricultural Society for death or personal injury caused by its negligence, or for any other liability which cannot be excluded or limited by law.

### **30. Limitation of Liability and Indemnity**

Subject to Regulation 29, the Society and its officers shall not be responsible for any accident, damage, loss or injury suffered by any exhibitor, their employees, agents or animals, or to any property or equipment exhibited or brought onto the Showground. Each exhibitor shall indemnify and keep indemnified the Yorkshire Agricultural Society against all claims, actions, losses, damages, costs and expenses arising from or in connection with their participation in the Show.

### **31. Insurance**

By completing an entry form, the exhibitor confirms that they hold, and will maintain from the date of application until the end of the Great Yorkshire Show, valid insurance providing cover against loss of or damage to persons or property, with a minimum indemnity limit of £2 million. This insurance must be in force for the duration of the exhibitor's involvement in the Show.

**32.** By completing an entry form, the exhibitor confirms, understands and agrees that, to the best of their knowledge and belief, the animal(s) entered are free from any clinical disease at the time of entry, including ringworm lesions, and that all reasonable precautions will be taken to prevent the animal(s) from being exposed to infectious or contagious disease from the time of entry until arrival on the Showground. The exhibitor further confirms that all particulars provided are correct to the best of their knowledge and belief; that the animal(s) are their own property; and that they are duly qualified, in accordance with the Society's Regulations and Conditions, to compete for the prize or prizes for which they are entered. The exhibitor agrees to comply with all Regulations, Codes of Conduct, Exhibitor Guidance, Conditions and Orders of the Great Yorkshire Show, and to indemnify the Yorkshire Agricultural Society against any legal proceedings arising from any illness, loss or damage occurring to, or caused by, any animal entered or exhibited at the Show.

## **Disqualifications, Sanctions and Exclusion Orders**

### **33. Disputes Between Exhibitors and Third Parties**

In the event of any dispute between an exhibitor and any other person attending the Show (other than a person connected with, employed by or representing the Yorkshire Agricultural Society), relating to any matter arising from the Show, the parties shall refer the matter to the Show Director or the Society Manager. The decision of the Show Director or the Society Manager shall be final and binding.

### **34. Disputes Involving the Society**

In the event of any dispute between an exhibitor and the Yorkshire Agricultural Society, or any of its officers, members, associates or employees, the matter shall be referred in the first instance to the Show Director or the Society Manager. The Show Director or the Society Manager shall determine the appropriate procedure to resolve the dispute, in accordance with the provisions of this section. By entering the Show, exhibitors agree that the dispute resolution procedures set out in this section shall be final and binding.



### **35. Rule Breaches**

Where the Yorkshire Agricultural Society becomes aware of any alleged breach of these Regulations, the matter shall be referred to the Show Director or the Society Manager, who will determine whether the breach is to be classified as a Minor Breach or a Major Breach.

### **36. Disputes arising under these Regulations shall be categorised as follows:**

#### **(a) Disputes arising from Minor Breaches**

Minor Breaches are those breaches considered to be of a lesser nature. The examples below are illustrative only and are not exhaustive. The classification of any breach as Minor or Major shall be determined by the Show Director or the Society Manager:

- (i)** procedural failings or administrative errors prior to showing;
- (ii)** late arrival for showing;
- (iii)** any other act deemed to constitute a Minor Breach by the Show Director or the Society Manager.

#### **(b) Disputes arising from Major Breaches**

Major Breaches are those breaches considered to be serious in nature. The examples below are illustrative only and are not exhaustive. The classification of any breach as Minor or Major shall be determined by the Show Director or the Society Manager:

- (i)** any act of cruelty to animals or conduct likely to cause suffering to an animal;
- (ii)** any act of dishonesty in competing, showing or exhibiting;
- (iii)** any act that could reasonably be regarded as cheating;
- (iv)** any breach of applicable laws, statutes, regulations, statutory instruments or byelaws relating to, but not limited to, the transport, care, presentation, breeding or disease prevention of animals or livestock;
- (v)** any other act deemed to be more than a Minor Breach by the Show Director or the Society Manager.

#### **(c) Disputes not relating to a breach of these Regulations.**

**37. Disputes arising out of Minor Breaches** will be determined at a hearing chaired by the Show Director or the Society Manager. The decision of the hearing shall be final and binding, and there shall be no right of appeal. No representation, whether legal or otherwise, will be permitted at such a hearing, and submissions will be heard only from the exhibitor concerned.

**38. Sanctions imposed following a hearing in respect of a Minor Breach** may include one or more of the following:

- (a)** a formal written warning; repeated Minor Breaches may result in the matter being reclassified as a Major Breach and dealt with accordingly;
- (b)** a fine of up to £1,000 payable to the Yorkshire Agricultural Society;
- (c)** a direction requiring the exhibitor to leave the Showground immediately and to take no further part in showing or competition for the remainder of that year's Show; this shall not affect any prizes, awards or remuneration already achieved prior to the breach and

shall not constitute a lifetime exclusion; refusal to leave the Showground when directed may itself constitute a Major Breach;

(d) an order for the forfeiture of prizes and prize money.lifetime ban. Refusal to leave the Showground may constitute a Major Breach and will be dealt with accordingly);

(d) an Order to forfeit prizes and prize monies.

**39. Disputes arising out of Major Breaches** will be considered at a hearing held in private and chaired, in the first instance, by the Show Director or the Society Manager. Evidence may be heard from relevant witnesses, and submissions will be accepted only from the exhibitor concerned.

**40.** No representation, whether legal or otherwise, shall be permitted at a hearing relating to a Major Breach.

**41.** The decision of the hearing shall be binding on all parties, subject to the right of appeal set out below.

**42.** Decisions made at first instance in respect of a Major Breach shall be subject to a right of appeal. Any exhibitor wishing to appeal must submit written grounds of appeal, setting out the reasons for the appeal, to the YAS Show Manager within 48 hours of notification of the first instance decision.

**43.** Upon receipt of validly submitted grounds of appeal, the Yorkshire Agricultural Society shall convene an Appeal Panel comprising between three and five appropriate representatives. The Appeal Panel may include Council Members, current or former Presidents, and any suitably qualified expert relevant to the appeal. The Appeal Panel shall appoint a Chair and set a date for the appeal hearing, which shall take place no earlier than 28 days from the date of the first instance decision.

**44.** The Appeal Panel may, at its discretion, appoint a suitably qualified person to provide legal advice to the Panel. Where such legal advice is appointed, and only in those circumstances, the appellant shall be permitted legal representation at any subsequent appeal hearing.

**45. All decisions of the Appeal Panel shall be final, binding and exclusive. By entering the Show, exhibitors agree to be bound by the decision of the Appeal Panel.** The Appeal Panel may make such orders as it considers necessary to ensure the effective and efficient conduct of the appeal, including (without limitation) adjourning the appeal hearing to obtain further evidence, requesting additional information or disclosure from the appellant, requiring the submission of skeleton arguments or other documents, or making any other reasonable procedural order. Failure to comply with any reasonable order of the Appeal Panel shall constitute a waiver of the right of appeal, and the first instance decision shall be enforced.

- 46.** At an appeal hearing, evidence may be received from witnesses either in person or in writing. Where a witness's evidence is disputed, that witness must give evidence in person, and the parties shall be afforded a reasonable opportunity to ask questions of that witness.
- 47.** Opening and closing submissions shall be permitted from each party involved in the appeal.
- 48.** At the conclusion of the appeal proceedings, the Appeal Panel shall reach a decision, which may be delivered orally at the hearing or issued in writing.
- 49.** Sanctions imposed at a first instance hearing or at any subsequent appeal hearing in respect of a Major Breach may include one or more of the following:
- (a)** the imposition of a lifetime Exclusion Order preventing the individual from exhibiting and/or attending the Show;
  - (b)** the imposition of an Exclusion Order for a fixed term of years, as determined at the discretion of the first instance hearing or the Appeal Panel, noting that any Exclusion Order imposed by an Appeal Panel shall be final and binding;
  - (c)** an order for the forfeiture of prizes and prize money;
  - (d)** a fine not exceeding £10,000, payable to the Yorkshire Agricultural Society.
- 50.** In relation to hearings concerning Minor Breaches or Major Breaches at first instance, each party shall bear their own costs. Any award of costs arising from appeal proceedings shall be determined by the Appeal Panel at the conclusion of the appeal and, where an appeal is dismissed, may include any costs incurred by the Yorkshire Agricultural Society in connection with the appeal hearing.
- 51.   Publicity and Data Protection**
- The Yorkshire Agricultural Society is committed to protecting personal data and processing it in accordance with applicable data protection legislation, including the UK General Data Protection Regulation and the Data Protection Act 2018. Personal data is processed where necessary for the performance of our contract with exhibitors, including the administration of entries to the Show, and where necessary for the Society's legitimate interests, such as verifying eligibility, publishing results and promoting the Show. Personal data will not be transferred outside the UK or European Economic Area unless appropriate safeguards are in place. Personal data may be shared with the Society's online entry system provider, relevant Breed Societies, affiliated societies and Equine Events where required for the validation of entries, eligibility and results. Show results may also be circulated to members of the press and published on the Society's website and official channels and may include the names and town locations of exhibitors. Personal data will be retained in accordance with the Society's retention schedule, including to simplify future applications where appropriate. The Society reserves the right to photograph, film or otherwise record exhibitors and other persons on the Showground and to store and use such images, including edited versions, for the Society's commercial and non-commercial purposes in any media, including promotional materials and the Society's website, and may supply such images to carefully selected third parties for related purposes.

The Society shall own the copyright in any such images. Further information, including details of individual rights, is available in the Society's Privacy Notice at [www.greatyorkshireshow.co.uk/privacy/](http://www.greatyorkshireshow.co.uk/privacy/)

## **52. Show Cancellation**

If the Great Yorkshire Show is cancelled prior to its commencement for reasons beyond the Society's control, all competitive entry fees will be refunded in full. No refund or compensation will be payable in respect of any consequential loss, expense or damage arising from such cancellation.

## **53. Violent, abusive or threatening behaviour**

The Society reserves the right to refuse entry to, or remove from, the Show any person, including exhibitors or competitors, who is intoxicated or who engages in violent, abusive or threatening behaviour towards any person, regardless of the circumstances. In such cases, the Police may be called, and the individual concerned may be removed from the Showground and excluded from future Shows and other events organised by the Society.



# GREAT YORKSHIRE SHOW

## Working Safely at the Great Yorkshire Show

Health, Safety and Site Guidance for Exhibitors, Contractors and Traders

14<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup> July 2026

## Foreword

This document represents the Yorkshire Agricultural Society's commitment to setting the highest standards of health, safety and welfare in the agricultural events sector. It has been developed in line with national event safety guidance and builds upon decades of experience in delivering one of the UK's most prestigious agricultural shows.

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# Introduction

The Yorkshire Agricultural Society (YAS) is committed to providing a safe and healthy environment for everyone involved in the Great Yorkshire Show. This document sets out the key health, safety and welfare requirements for all exhibitors, contractors, traders and others working at the Showground during the build-up, event and breakdown periods.

All participants are expected to comply with this guidance and with all applicable health and safety legislation. This document should be read in conjunction with any risk assessments, stand-specific safety documentation, and official instructions from YAS staff, stewards, or emergency services.

This guidance has been prepared by the YAS Health & Safety Team in consultation with North Yorkshire Council, Emergency Services and the Event Safety Advisory Group. Its purpose is to ensure that every person attending or working at the Show can do so safely and responsibly.

Please read this document carefully before arriving on site and keep a copy available for reference during the event.

If you have any questions about these arrangements before arriving, please email [JamieN@yas.co.uk](mailto:JamieN@yas.co.uk)

# Health & Safety Responsibilities at the Show

## **Organiser Responsibilities (YAS)**

The Yorkshire Agricultural Society (YAS), as organiser of the Great Yorkshire Show, will take all reasonably practicable steps to ensure that the Showground is operated safely and that effective emergency, traffic-management and welfare arrangements are in place. YAS will plan, manage and monitor all activities under its control, provide competent safety advice, and maintain arrangements for emergency response, medical provision and crowd safety.

## **Exhibitor, Contractor and Trader Responsibilities**

Exhibitors, contractors and traders are responsible for managing the safety of their own work activities in accordance with health and safety legislation and this guidance. They must ensure that risk assessments are completed, safe systems of work are implemented, equipment is properly maintained and operated by competent persons, and their staff are briefed on emergency procedures and welfare arrangements. Further detailed requirements are set out in the relevant sections of this document.

## **Everyone's Responsibilities**

Everyone working or exhibiting at the Show shares a responsibility to act safely, report hazards and always follow the instructions of Show Officials. This includes compliance with any site-safety briefings or written directions issued before or during the eve

# Organiser's Statement of Commitment

(from the Chief Executive of the Yorkshire Agricultural Society)

The Yorkshire Agricultural Society (YAS), as organiser of the Great Yorkshire Show, is committed to ensuring the health, safety and welfare of everyone involved in the event — including exhibitors, contractors, traders, staff, volunteers, visitors and members of the public.

We recognise our responsibilities under the Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974 and all other relevant legislation, and we take all reasonably practicable steps to provide a safe, well-managed environment across the Showground. Safety is at the heart of our planning and operations.

The success of the Show relies on shared commitment. Every exhibitor, contractor and trader has a duty to manage the safety of their own work, equipment, employees and animals. All participants are expected to follow this guidance, carry out suitable risk assessments, co-operate with YAS staff, and act on any instructions given by our Safety Team, Stewards or Emergency Services.

By working together, we can ensure the Great Yorkshire Show continues to set the standard for safe, professional and enjoyable agricultural events for everyone who takes part or visits.

Signed

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A. L. Nixon', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Allister Nixon  
Chief Executive  
Yorkshire Agricultural Society

# Key Health, Safety and Welfare Legislation and Responsibilities

The following key pieces of UK legislation and guidance underpin the safety arrangements for the Great Yorkshire Show. Exhibitors, contractors and traders must ensure that their own work, equipment and staff also comply with these laws and associated best practice. This summary is for guidance only and not exhaustive.

| Legislation / Regulation                                                                   | Applies To                                                      | Summary of Duty / Relevance                                                                                                         |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974 (HSWA)</b>                                      | All employers, employees, contractors and self-employed persons | Establishes the general duty to protect the health, safety and welfare of employees and others affected by work activities.         |
| <b>Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations 1999 (MHSWR)</b>                    | All employers and self-employed                                 | Requires risk assessment, competent advice, and arrangements for effective planning, organisation and control of health and safety. |
| <b>Construction (Design and Management) Regulations 2015 (CDM)</b>                         | Anyone involved in construction or dismantling work on site     | Governs how construction-type activities (e.g. marquees, stages, structures) are planned, managed and coordinated safely.           |
| <b>Provision and Use of Work Equipment Regulations 1998 (PUWER)</b>                        | Anyone providing or using tools, machinery or plant             | Ensures work equipment is suitable, maintained and used safely by competent people.                                                 |
| <b>Lifting Operations and Lifting Equipment Regulations 2002 (LOLER)</b>                   | Anyone using lifting equipment (e.g. telehandlers, cranes)      | Requires that lifting operations are planned, supervised and carried out by competent persons using certified equipment.            |
| <b>Work at Height Regulations 2005</b>                                                     | Anyone working above ground level                               | Requires that work at height is properly planned, supervised and carried out using appropriate equipment and fall protection.       |
| <b>Control of Substances Hazardous to Health Regulations 2002 (COSHH)</b>                  | Use of cleaning agents, disinfectants, fuels or chemicals       | Requires assessment and control of exposure to hazardous substances, including disinfectants used in livestock areas.               |
| <b>Electricity at Work Regulations 1989</b>                                                | All electrical work and installations                           | Requires electrical systems to be constructed, maintained and used to prevent danger.                                               |
| <b>Noise at Work Regulations 2005</b>                                                      | Workers exposed to amplified music or machinery                 | Requires assessment and control of noise exposure to prevent hearing damage.                                                        |
| <b>Personal Protective Equipment at Work Regulations 1992 (as amended)</b>                 | Employers and contractors                                       | Requires the provision and correct use of suitable PPE where risks cannot be controlled by other means.                             |
| <b>Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005</b>                                          | Anyone in control of premises, structures or trade stands       | Requires fire risk assessment and suitable fire prevention, detection and evacuation arrangements.                                  |
| <b>Reporting of Injuries, Diseases and Dangerous Occurrences Regulations 2013 (RIDDOR)</b> | Employers and those in control of premises                      | Requires reporting to HSE of specified injuries, occupational diseases and dangerous occurrences.                                   |
| <b>Animal Welfare Act 2006</b>                                                             | Livestock exhibitors, handlers, and organisers                  | Establishes a duty of care to ensure animals are protected from harm and unnecessary suffering while on site.                       |

| Legislation / Regulation                                               | Applies To                                           | Summary of Duty / Relevance                                                                                                                                      |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Welfare of Animals (Transport) (England) Order 2006</b>             | Transporters of livestock                            | Sets conditions for the transport of animals, including fitness to travel, rest periods and vehicle standards.                                                   |
| <b>Animal Gatherings (England) Order 2010</b>                          | All livestock gatherings, including shows and sales  | Requires organisers to hold a valid Animal Gatherings Licence, maintain biosecurity, and keep movement records.                                                  |
| <b>Veterinary Medicines Regulations 2013</b>                           | Animal exhibitors and vets                           | Regulates the supply, possession and use of veterinary medicines.                                                                                                |
| <b>Zoonoses (Monitoring and Control) Regulations 1989 (as amended)</b> | All persons involved with animals or animal products | Requires monitoring and control of zoonotic diseases transmissible between animals and humans.                                                                   |
| <b>Food Safety and Hygiene (England) Regulations 2013</b>              | Caterers and food exhibitors                         | Sets hygiene and safety requirements for food preparation, handling and storage.                                                                                 |
| <b>Environmental Protection Act 1990</b>                               | All site users                                       | Duty of care to prevent pollution, manage waste responsibly and dispose of it via authorised routes including correct waste segregation, recycling and disposal. |

### Supporting Guidance and Best Practice

This guidance also reflects the principles and best practice outlined in:

- *The Purple Guide (Health, Safety and Welfare at Music and Other Events);*
- *HSE publication “Managing Health and Safety in the Exhibition and Events Industry” (INDG477);*
- *DEFRA’s Biosecurity Guidance for Animal Gatherings; and*
- *Local Authority Event Safety Advisory Group (SAG) recommendations for large-scale public events.*

These legal requirements form the foundation for how the Great Yorkshire Show is planned and operated. Exhibitors, contractors and traders should ensure their own policies, risk assessments and procedures reflect the standards outlined below.

### Compliance Statement

The Yorkshire Agricultural Society (YAS) plans, manages and monitors all work and activities associated with the Great Yorkshire Show in accordance with these statutory requirements.

All exhibitors, contractors and participants are required to comply fully with this legislation, cooperate with YAS and its appointed safety officers, and maintain the highest standards of health, safety, welfare and animal care throughout the event.

# Organisational and Management Arrangements

## Key Organisational Contacts and Responsibilities

### Society Manager – David Tite

The Society Manager provides overall leadership and direction for the Great Yorkshire Show, ensuring that it is planned and delivered safely, efficiently and in accordance with the Yorkshire Agricultural Society's objectives and values. Working closely with the Chief Executive and departmental managers, the Society Manager oversees coordination across all Show departments and holds overall responsibility for ensuring that the event complies with health and safety legislation and Society policy.

The Society Manager ensures that resources, personnel and contractors are effectively managed and that communication between departments supports safe and efficient operations throughout the planning, build-up, live event and breakdown phases.

### Operations Manager – Jamie Newson-Smith

Reporting to the Society Manager, the Operations Manager is responsible for implementing the Health & Safety Policy across all areas of the Show and ensuring that individual responsibilities are fulfilled so far as is reasonably practicable.

Through effective planning, briefing and supervision, the Operations Manager ensures that all activities under the management and control of the Yorkshire Agricultural Society comply with statutory requirements for health and safety. The Operations Manager coordinates operational safety during the build-up, live event and breakdown periods and ensures that control measures are communicated through staff briefings, exhibitor information and the Officials' Guidance Booklet.

Working with the Facilities Manager, Event Safety Officer and other departmental leads, the Operations Manager ensures that areas under YAS control are maintained in a safe condition, and that entrances, exits and movement routes for people, animals and vehicles are managed safely. The Operations Manager is authorised to stop or suspend any work activity considered unsafe and direct corrective action in consultation with the Society Manager and Event Safety Officer.

### Facilities Manager – Joe Leahy

The Facilities Manager is responsible for the management of Facilities Department staff, contractors and activities at and in connection with the Show. This includes the safe operation of utilities, plant and equipment, ensuring that vehicle, pedestrian and livestock routes are clearly defined, maintained and risk-assessed.

The Facilities Manager supports both the Society Manager and the Operations Manager in maintaining a safe, well-managed site environment. They provide up-to-date safety information for staff, exhibitors, contractors and visitors, and ensure that all hazardous substances are stored, handled and used safely under competent supervision. The Facilities Manager ensures that infrastructure, site services and welfare facilities remain safe, compliant and operational throughout the event.

### Show Coordinator – Michelle Mackey

The Show Coordinator oversees event scheduling, coordination and liaison between departments, ensuring that operations run efficiently across all phases of the Show. Working under the direction of the Society Manager and in collaboration with the Operations Manager, Facilities Manager and Event Safety Officer, the Show Coordinator ensures that staff, volunteers and contractors are briefed on safety issues identified in the event risk assessment and that personal protective equipment (PPE) is available and used correctly.

Alongside the Show & Trade Stands Officer, the Show Coordinator has delegated authority to stop or suspend any activity that presents an immediate risk to health, safety or welfare, pending review by the Operations Manager or Event Safety Officer.

### Show & Trade Stands Officer – Emma Donnelly

The Show & Trade Stands Officer is responsible for liaising with trade exhibitors and their contractors to ensure that suitable and sufficient risk assessments are completed, reviewed and implemented during the build-up, open and breakdown phases.

The officer works closely with the Show Coordinator, Society Manager and Operations Manager to ensure that exhibitors and their staff are briefed on safety expectations and that activities are carried out in accordance with approved risk assessments and safe systems of work. They assist in monitoring exhibitor safety compliance and take prompt action where non-conformances are identified.

### Livestock & Entries Coordinator – Amanda Stoddart-West

The Livestock & Entries Coordinator is responsible for the safe management and coordination of livestock entries, exhibitor information and biosecurity arrangements. They ensure that all handlers, exhibitors and contractors comply with livestock movement and welfare requirements, and that appropriate segregation and hygiene controls are maintained to protect both animals and visitors.

The coordinator ensures that exhibitors are informed of biosecurity requirements, that cleansing and disinfection procedures are followed, and that livestock movement routes are safe and properly supervised at all times.



## Principal Event Safety Officer (ESO) – Phil Atkinson, ARM Ltd

The Principal Event Safety Officer provides independent event-safety oversight and competent advice to the Yorkshire Agricultural Society. Responsibilities include monitoring compliance with the Construction (Design and Management) Regulations 2015, reviewing risk assessments and method statements, and supervising incident investigations.

The ESO advises the Society on emerging risks, good practice and continuous improvement, and acts as the Society's competent person for event safety and health protection during the Show. The ESO has the authority to intervene and require the suspension of any activity where an immediate danger to life or health exists, pending further assessment by YAS management.

All managers listed above are responsible for ensuring that within their areas of control:

- Risks are identified, assessed and managed in accordance with YAS procedures;
- Staff, contractors and exhibitors receive timely and relevant safety information;
- Personal protective equipment (PPE) is provided, worn and maintained as required; and
- Unsafe acts or conditions are reported immediately and remedied without delay.

These arrangements ensure that the Society not only fulfils its statutory obligations but operates to standards that exceed those normally expected within the agricultural events sector.

## Supporting Roles

The following summaries describe how each team contributes to site safety.

### Finance & Gate Staff

Finance and Gate Staff play an important role in maintaining a safe and orderly environment at the Show. Their duties include managing ticketing, queuing and gate operations in a manner that protects visitors, exhibitors and colleagues, with particular attention to crowd movement, vehicle access and the secure handling of cash.

They follow site health and safety arrangements relevant to their work and promptly notify the Operations Manager or Event Safety Officer of any hazards, unsafe acts or incidents that may arise.

### YAS Stewards

YAS Stewards, identifiable by official badges, serve in a voluntary capacity to assist with the safe running of the Show. Within their designated areas they help to maintain a safe environment, supporting the correct handling and display of livestock, horses, machinery and equipment in line with agreed safety standards.

Stewards act as a first point of contact for safety or welfare concerns and report any issues to the Operations Manager, Event Safety Officer or Biosecurity Officer. They play a vital role in promoting good practice and ensuring that visitors and exhibitors enjoy the Show safely.

### Safety Stewards and Security Officers

Safety Stewards and Security Officers are contracted professionals who support the overall safety and security of the Showground. Their responsibilities include crowd management, access control and enforcing site regulations such as the Smoke-Free Policy and the management of Temporary Event Notice (TEN) areas.

During major incidents, these personnel operate under the direction of North Yorkshire Police. They oversee the safe movement of livestock and equines, maintain the safety of spectator areas such as the Main Ring Grandstand and Collecting Rings, and ensure that entrances and exits remain unobstructed.

The Stewarding and Security Plan (Method of Operation) sets out the detailed structure, deployment and command arrangements for these teams. All contractors engaged in these roles meet the requirements of the Security Industry Authority (SIA) Approved Contractor Scheme or the relevant British Standard for Safety Stewards and hold a recognised qualification, normally NVQ Level 2.

## Plant Operators

Plant Operators are responsible for the safe use of all vehicles and machinery under their control. They ensure that equipment is maintained, operated in line with safe systems of work and confined to designated routes at appropriate speeds.

When not in use, machinery is isolated and secured. Operators contribute to site safety by maintaining their equipment in good condition and by following the procedures and signage provided across the Showground.

## General, Utility and Contracted Workers

General, utility and contracted workers contribute to the safe delivery of the Show by maintaining safe practices within their areas of work. They handle equipment and materials safely, follow relevant risk assessments and safe systems of work, and cooperate with YAS staff and supervisors.

Anyone who identifies a potential danger or unsafe condition is encouraged to stop work and report it immediately to their Supervisor, the Event Safety Officer, Facilities Manager or Operations Manager.

Workers involved in disinfection or similar activities follow approved procedures and use appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE). Contracted workers comply with their own company health and safety policies and provide copies of their risk assessments and safe systems of work for the Great Yorkshire Show before starting on site.

## Construction (Design and Management) Regulations 2015 (CDM)

The build-up and breakdown of the Great Yorkshire Show involve a wide range of construction-type activities, from erecting marquees and stands to installing services, signage and temporary infrastructure.

To ensure that these works are managed safely and in full compliance with legal requirements, the Construction (Design and Management) Regulations 2015 (CDM) apply to all such activities carried out on the Showground.

The following section explains how CDM is implemented and managed by the Yorkshire Agricultural Society (YAS), how it applies to exhibitors and their contractors, and how each party is expected to cooperate in maintaining the highest safety standards during the event's build, operation and breakdown phases.

### CDM – Application to the Great Yorkshire Show

The Construction (Design and Management) Regulations 2015 (CDM) apply to all work involving the construction, erection or dismantling of structures on the Great Yorkshire Showground during the build-up, live event and breakdown phases.

If you are erecting or dismantling your own stand, marquee or structure, these CDM rules apply to you.

## Our CDM Structure

To reflect the unique nature of exhibitions and events, CDM responsibilities at the Great Yorkshire Show are divided into two parts:

| Area of Control                        | CDM Client                           | Description / Examples                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
|----------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Common infrastructure and shared areas | Yorkshire Agricultural Society (YAS) | Roads, grandstands, marquees, livestock buildings, utilities, power distribution, water, waste, sanitation, temporary welfare and major contracted works.                                                                                                           |
| Individual exhibitor or feature stands | The Exhibitor / Stand Holder         | Each exhibitor's stand or feature is a separate CDM "project". The exhibitor acts as the Client for their own space and is responsible for the safe construction and removal of their stand, and for the competence and management of any contractors they appoint. |

YAS retains overall responsibility for coordinating the safe management of the Showground and for ensuring that exhibitors' CDM activities do not create risks to others.

## Our Appointed CDM Duty Holders

| CDM Role                         | Organisation / Person                                               | Core Responsibilities                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Client (Event Level)</b>      | Yorkshire Agricultural Society (YAS)                                | Acts as the overall Client under CDM 2015. Ensures that suitable duty holders are appointed, welfare and management arrangements are in place, and all activities on the Showground are coordinated safely.                 |
| <b>Principal Designer (PD)</b>   | Yorkshire Agricultural Society, supported by ARM Ltd (H&S Advisors) | Plans, manages and coordinates health and safety during the design and pre-construction phase. Ensures that information is shared between designers, contractors, and exhibitors to eliminate or control foreseeable risks. |
| <b>Principal Contractor (PC)</b> | Yorkshire Agricultural Society (Operations and Facilities Teams)    | Controls the site during the build, open and breakdown periods. Coordinates all contractors, manages inductions and traffic routes, and implements the Construction Phase Plan to ensure safe working.                      |

| <i>CDM Role</i>                                                           | <i>Organisation / Person</i>                     | <i>Core Responsibilities</i>                                                                                                                                                                                         |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Competent Health &amp; Safety Advisor / Event Safety Officer (ESO)</b> | Phil Atkinson – ARM Ltd                          | Provides competent advice to YAS as Client, PD, and PC. Monitors site safety, assists with CDM documentation, and supports incident investigation and compliance checks.                                             |
| <b>Exhibitors / Stand Contractors</b>                                     | Individual organisations / appointed contractors | Act as the CDM Client, Designer and Contractor for their own stand or structure. Must prepare suitable RAMS, appoint competent staff, and cooperate fully with YAS as the site-wide Client and Principal Contractor. |

## What Exhibitors and Contractors Must Do

Each exhibitor or stand builder must:

- Assess their work under CDM 2015 and identify whether designers or contractors are involved.
- Appoint competent persons to design, construct, and dismantle their structure.
- Provide suitable and sufficient Risk Assessments and Method Statements (RAMS) to YAS before starting work.
- Cooperate with YAS and its appointed teams by following safety instructions, site rules, and any direction given to prevent risks arising from overlapping or adjacent activities.
- Ensure welfare and PPE arrangements are in place for their workers.
- Comply with site rules, inductions and the Construction Phase Plan for the Showground.
- Report accidents, near-misses or unsafe conditions immediately to the Event Safety Officer or Facilities Manager.

## How YAS Manages CDM Across the Site

YAS, as Principal Contractor, maintains a Construction Phase Plan covering all common areas and site-wide arrangements including:

- Traffic and plant management;
- Site access and sign-in;
- Emergency and first-aid provision;
- Fire safety, welfare, and waste management; and
- Coordination of work that affects multiple exhibitors.

This plan is reviewed annually and made available to exhibitors and contractors before build-up.

Where CDM activities meet the notification threshold under Regulation 6, YAS (as Client) will ensure an F10 notification is submitted to the HSE.

## Summary

- CDM 2015 applies to all build and breakdown activities on the Showground.
- Each exhibitor is responsible for their own stand as a CDM project.
- YAS retains control of shared areas and coordinates site-wide safety through its appointed duty holders.
- Cooperation and communication between all parties are essential to ensure that the Great Yorkshire Show continues to operate to the highest safety standards in the UK events sector.

## Show Safety Arrangements

Health and safety at the Great Yorkshire Show (GYS) is a shared responsibility. Overall accountability rests with the Yorkshire Agricultural Society (YAS), acting through its Chief Executive and Senior Management Team. Day-to-day implementation is coordinated through the following key roles.

## Working Safely at the Show

### Risk Assessments and Documentation

All exhibitors, contractors and traders must complete a suitable and sufficient risk assessment covering their build-up, open and breakdown activities. These must be submitted to the Show & Trade Stands Officer (STSO) or relevant YAS contact before arrival on site. Failure to provide a satisfactory assessment may result in tickets and passes being withheld.

Where work involves higher-risk activities (such as construction, lifting, vehicle movements, or electrical installations), a written Method Statement or Safe System of Work (SSW) must also be provided. Exhibitors are responsible for employing competent contractors and ensuring that current insurance, certification and safety documentation are available for inspection on request.

The Society reserves the right to suspend any activity or remove any exhibitor, contractor or staff member from the Showground if their actions are unsafe or in breach of this Policy, relevant legislation, or Show Regulations.

### Safe Working Practices

Exhibitors and contractors must ensure that all activities are planned and carried out safely, with due regard for the health, safety and welfare of staff, visitors and animals.

Exhibitors must ensure that all plant, machinery, equipment, and substances used in connection with the Show are safe, inspected, and operated in accordance with manufacturer's instructions and current health and safety legislation.

All activities must be carried out in line with a suitable Safe System of Work, particularly in relation to the movement of horses and livestock around the Showground. Exhibitors and their staff must follow all directions issued by YAS officials, Stewards, Safety Officers and the Event Safety Officer.

Exhibitors are responsible for maintaining a safe working environment, ensuring that all articles and substances are stored, handled and used safely, and that both health and fire safety legislation are observed.

Any exhibitor who fails to comply with these requirements may be subject to enforcement action by North Yorkshire Council Environmental Health Officers and/or the North Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service Fire Safety Officers.

## Livestock and Animal Welfare and Control

Livestock and animal exhibitors are reminded that the Show environment can be stressful for animals. Any animal known to have an unpredictable temperament or poor handling behaviour must not be brought to the Show. Any animal whose behaviour gives cause for concern must be referred to the Show Veterinary Surgeon for assessment and, if necessary, removal from the site.

All livestock and animals must be under the control of a competent handler at all times and handled using equipment and restraints that are safe and fit for purpose. Bulls aged ten months or over must be shown with nose rings. Movements across the Showground — including between livestock lines, stabling areas and judging rings — take place in areas accessible to the public, and handlers must ensure appropriate safeguards are in place to prevent escape or injury.

All handlers in Breed and Commercial classes must be 14 years of age or older. In Young Handler classes, children under 14 must be supervised by an experienced adult capable of restraining or controlling the animal in an emergency. In the interests of public safety, livestock exhibitors must keep animal movements to a minimum while the Show is open to the public. Movements should be restricted to designated and controlled routes identified by the organisers. Livestock must not be left unattended in public areas unless securely penned or stabled, and exhibitors must ensure enclosures are robust and stock cannot escape when viewed by the public.

Livestock exhibitors must also ensure that any staff or helpers involved in cleaning or disinfecting duties are briefed on the associated risks and provided with appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE). All exhibitors are responsible for providing, maintaining and correctly using their own PPE.

Equine exhibitors and riders must comply with the Hard Hat Regulation detailed in the Personal Protective Equipment section of this Policy.

## Liability, Insurance and Indemnity

All exhibitors and contractors are responsible for the safety of their own employees, agents and property while on the Showground, and for ensuring that their activities do not cause injury, loss or damage to others. Each exhibitor and contractor must hold adequate Public Liability Insurance (minimum £5 million cover, or as specified by the Society) and be able to produce evidence of this upon request.

Exhibitors and contractors will indemnify the Yorkshire Agricultural Society against any claim, loss, damage or injury arising as a direct result of their negligence, failure to follow safe working practices, or non-compliance with this Policy, relevant legislation or Show Regulations. This indemnity includes any incidents caused by their employees, agents, equipment or animals while attending or participating in the Show.

Livestock and animal exhibitors specifically will indemnify the Society against any loss, damage or injury arising from:



- the failure to provide competent handlers; or
- any negligent act or omission by the handler or owner that contravenes this Policy or the Show Regulations.

The Society reserves the right to restrict public movement through livestock lines, stabling areas and judging rings while animal movement is in progress.

Proof of insurance must be available for inspection throughout the Show.

## First Aid and Medical Provision

First aid and medical facilities at the Great Yorkshire Show are provided by a specialist accredited medical contractor, delivering full coverage throughout the four Show days, including build-up and breakdown support where required.

Provision includes:

- A dedicated Medical Centre on the Showground staffed by a Doctor and qualified Emergency Care Practitioners when the Show is open to the public.
- Mobile first-aid teams operating across all zones of the site to provide rapid response on foot or bicycle.
- Ambulance support and direct coordination with Harrogate District Hospital for cases requiring hospital treatment.
- Medical staff trained to assist adults and children at risk, ensuring safeguarding and welfare needs are met.
- Automated External Defibrillators (AEDs) located at:
  - YEC Venue Management Office (E4)
  - Pavilions of Harrogate General Office (J5)
  - Fodder Office (H8)
  - Harrogate Caravan Park Office (F8)

All first-aid incidents, medical incidents, and near-misses must be reported to the Event Safety Officer (ESO) for recording and investigation, and where applicable, for statutory reporting under RIDDOR.

Exhibitors and contractors must ensure that adequate first-aid arrangements are in place for their staff during build-up and breakdown, particularly when working outside the public opening hours.

## Emergency Procedures

In the event of a major incident during the Great Yorkshire Show, the Yorkshire Agricultural Society (YAS) will implement the procedures contained within the GYS Major & Critical Incident Plan.

This supplementary document outlines the structure and responsibilities for incident command, communication, evacuation, welfare and liaison with the emergency services.

All staff, stewards, contractors and exhibitors must familiarise themselves with the key actions applicable to their role and follow the instructions of the Operations Manager, Event Safety Officer (ESO) or emergency services. The Major & Critical Incident Plan is available for review on request through the Event Safety Officer.

## Fire Precautions

All staff, temporary workers, contractors and exhibitors must comply with the Show's Fire Risk Assessments, prepared in accordance with the Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005. This includes all persons responsible for activities within temporary structures and marquees.

Before opening to the public, every trade stand or catering unit must be equipped with at least one suitable fire extinguisher and a means of raising the alarm, such as a battery-operated alarm, air horn or hand bell. For small stands, a clear verbal warning may be acceptable. All stand personnel must know how to raise the alarm and what actions to take in the event of fire.

The use of petrol-powered generators, naked flames, candles, or any direct-burning appliances is prohibited within multi-occupancy marquees, trade stands or enclosed public areas.

Fire exits must be kept clear at all times. No person shall place obstructions in aisles, corridors or escape routes. Fire extinguishers and other fire safety equipment must remain in accessible positions and clearly identified.

Anyone discovering a fire must dial **999**, quoting postcode **HG2 8NZ**, followed by the exact location, and then inform **Event Control** or **Black Gate Security Point** (when Event Control is closed). Fire points for the temporary caravan and camping areas are located at:

- Constant Security Portakabin in the Event Assembly Area (opposite Black Gate)
- Sheep Gate Security Hut (entrance to the Sheep Lines)
- Brown Gate Security Hut
- Blue Gate Reception

Each fire point contains two extinguishers, two beaters, and an air horn alarm.

Constant Security patrols are designated to these areas and act as Fire Marshals.

To supplement portable fire safety equipment carried on plant and machinery, the Facilities Department maintains additional fire-fighting equipment at key locations around the site.

## The Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005

### *Fire Safety Responsibilities*

Fire represents one of the most significant risks on the Showground.

All trade stand exhibitors, contractors, and persons in charge of activities within temporary structures, marquees or multi-occupancy units have a legal duty to carry out a Fire Risk Assessment under the Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005.

Your assessment must:

- Identify potential fire hazards;
- Reduce the likelihood of those hazards causing harm as far as is reasonably practicable; and
- Describe the physical precautions and management arrangements required to ensure the safety of people if a fire occurs.

YAS provides exhibitors with guidance notes during pre-Show planning to help meet these requirements and to outline the general fire-precaution standards expected at the Great Yorkshire Show.

The following notes are intended to assist with your own pre-Show planning and fire-control arrangements. This list is not exhaustive but outlines the key areas that should be considered in your assessment.

### *Liquid Petroleum Gas (LPG)*

Risk: Gas containers and cylinders present a risk of explosion and fire.

Controls:

- LPG containers should be no larger than 15 kg and stored upright on a stable surface.
- Cylinders must be securely manifolded to the appliance or system they serve.
- Storage must be at least 2 metres from any vehicle, building or structure.
- Only the minimum number of spare cylinders needed for the Show may be kept on site.
- Spare cylinders must be kept away from heat sources and secured behind a barrier or within a cage.
- Fire-fighting equipment (e.g. dry-powder extinguisher) must be readily available at the storage point.

### *Highly Flammable Liquids*

Risk: Petrol, diesel and other flammable liquids act as fire accelerants and present explosion risks.

Vehicles parked close to trade stands can also increase the fire load.

Controls:

- Non-essential vehicles are not permitted on the Showground.
- Vehicles required for stock replacement or maintenance must be parked safely and positioned for easy removal in an emergency.
- Each such vehicle must be fitted with a suitable fire extinguisher.
- All exhibitor vehicle labels must display a current emergency contact number.

### *Dry Combustibles*

Risk: Paper, cardboard, straw, and packaging materials can provide fuel for a fire.

Controls:

- Quantities of dry combustible materials must be kept to a minimum.
- Fire-fighting equipment must be available in storage areas.
- Waste materials should be removed regularly to prevent accumulation.

### *Machinery*

Risk: Machinery can generate heat, sparks, or friction, and may also create secondary hazards such as noise or dust.

Controls:

- Safety devices, guards and warning notices must be in place and functional at all times.
- Machinery must be properly maintained and operated only by competent personnel.
- Heat build-up, electrical faults or overheating must be addressed immediately.
- Dust, vapour or other flammable residues should be controlled through good housekeeping and ventilation.

### *Smoking*

Risk: Smoking and discarded materials remain one of the most common causes of fire.

Controls:

- “No Smoking” signs must be displayed clearly at all stand entrances and within display areas.
- Suitable bins or receptacles must be provided outside entrances for cigarette disposal.
- Exhibitors and staff are responsible for enforcing the No Smoking policy in and around their areas.
- Fire-fighting equipment must be provided and clearly signposted.
- All enclosed or substantially enclosed areas on the Showground are Smoke-Free, including the use of e-cigarettes and vapes.
- Specific fire-safety guidance for trade stands and temporary structures must be followed at all times.

### *Electrical Equipment*

Risk: Electricity poses a dual risk of electric shock and fire caused by overheating or overloading.

Controls:

- Exhibitors must not overload or modify the mains electrical supply under any circumstances.

- Only approved electrical contractors may connect to or alter the supply.
- Equipment must be used in accordance with manufacturer's instructions.
- All appliances must be unplugged when not in use.
- Any damaged or faulty electrical items must be reported immediately to the Facilities Office and not used until repaired or replaced.
- Portable appliances must carry a current PAT certificate.

# Operational Controls

## Vehicle Movements, Speed Limits and Site Safety

To protect everyone on site, vehicle movement within the Showground is strictly controlled.

No vehicle movements are permitted while the Show is open to the public, except for essential service or emergency vehicles authorised by YAS.

The maximum site speed limit is 5 mph for all mechanically driven vehicles, including ATVs and quad bikes, unless signage indicates otherwise.

Drivers must exercise extreme caution, especially in areas where large crowds, livestock or horses are present.

If public density makes driving unsafe, vehicles must not enter the area until it is clear and safe to proceed.

The safety of pedestrians and livestock always takes priority over vehicle access or convenience.

A banksman must be used whenever a vehicle reverses in a public area.

Trade exhibitors and contractors delivering goods or loading/unloading equipment during the Show must follow the “Delivering Safely – Driver Safety” guidance (see Appendix 2) and observe all Site Safety signs displayed at the main gates during build-up and breakdown (see Appendix 3).

Drivers must not operate any vehicle while under the influence of alcohol or drugs—including prescription medication that may impair alertness.

Anyone considered a danger to themselves or others will be removed from the Showground and, where appropriate, reported to the Police.

Complaints or concerns regarding unsafe driving must be reported to the Operations Manager, Facilities Manager, or Event Safety Officer immediately.

## Deliveries and Traffic Management

The Yorkshire Agricultural Society (YAS) has established traffic management arrangements to ensure the safe movement of vehicles, pedestrians and livestock across the Showground during build-up, show days and breakdown.

All exhibitors, contractors and delivery drivers must comply with the site access plan, signage and any instructions issued by YAS staff, stewards or security personnel.

Deliveries should be made only within the times authorised by YAS, and all drivers must observe the site speed limits and designated one-way systems. Reversing must be minimised and, where necessary, a banksman must be used.

Vehicles may not remain in loading areas or on trade avenues once unloading is complete. Exhibitors are responsible for ensuring that their delivery drivers are aware of these requirements.

Further details and safe driving instructions are provided in *Appendix 2 – Delivering Safely: Driver Safety Information*.

## Caravans and Camping

Designated caravan and camping areas are provided around the Showground for use by exhibitors, contractors and visitors. Caravans, campervans and tents are not permitted in any other areas unless specifically authorised in writing by the Society.

Within camping areas, vehicles must be parked separately from tents to prevent collisions and maintain safe pedestrian movement. Vehicles must never be parked directly in front of tent entrances or escape routes.

Camping is not permitted within the Showground itself — including behind, beside or inside trade stands, buildings, marquees or any enclosed structure — as these locations do not provide a safe or immediate means of escape in an emergency.

Everyone booking a caravan, mobile home or tent pitch will receive a copy of the Show Caravan and Camping Regulations, which form part of the booking conditions and must be complied with at all times.

The Red Camping Area is not suitable for families with children under 16 or for individuals with reduced mobility. Children under 12 years of age must not be left unaccompanied in a caravan or tent at any time while on the Showground or within its confines.

## Health Protection Measures

The Event Safety Officer (ESO) acts as the designated Health Protection Officer for the Show, supported by Society staff, Stewards, and contracted medical and security personnel.

The Society's Visitor Code of Conduct sets out the health, hygiene and behaviour standards expected of everyone attending the event. Compliance with this Code is a condition of entry (see Appendix 5). All staff, contractors and exhibitors must take personal responsibility for their health and the safety of others.

Anyone feeling unwell prior to arrival should not travel to the Showground. Anyone who becomes unwell while on site must stop work immediately and report to the Medical Centre or the nearest first-aid point for assessment. Everyone is encouraged to maintain good hygiene by washing hands regularly and following any additional public-health guidance in place at the time of the Show. These simple measures help protect all staff, exhibitors, contractors and visitors, and support the Society's ongoing commitment to providing a safe and healthy environment for everyone attending the Great Yorkshire Show.

## Health and Hygiene – Contact with Animals

The Great Yorkshire Show provides an enjoyable and educational experience for visitors of all ages, particularly children. However, farm animals can carry microorganisms that may be harmful to people — even when the animals appear clean and healthy.

Organisms such as *E. coli* O157 and *Cryptosporidium* can cause illness, particularly in young children, pregnant women and older adults. Infection can occur through touching animals, contaminated surfaces, or eating and drinking before washing hands properly.

To reduce these risks, all exhibitors and those responsible for livestock and animal handling areas must ensure that:

- Animal pens and surrounding areas are kept clean and free from waste build-up.
- Visitors are encouraged to wash their hands thoroughly with soap and running water immediately after contact with animals or animal areas.
- Hand gels or wipes are not offered as a substitute for proper handwashing — they are ineffective against *E. coli* O157 in this environment.
- Signage displaying the “Stay Safe Around Animals” message remains visible in all animal areas.
- Livestock lines and animal pens are managed to prevent visitors eating, drinking or smoking near animals.
- Any contamination incidents (e.g. animal waste spillages) are reported promptly to YAS staff or Safety Stewards so that the area can be cleaned and disinfected.



Permanent and temporary toilet and handwashing facilities with running water and soap are located throughout the Showground. Their locations are shown on Showground maps, and directional signage is provided near livestock areas. Safety Stewards within the Cattle Lines and other animal areas will advise parents and guardians to follow the hygiene guidance displayed, especially for small children and babies in buggies or pushchairs.

**Visitors and exhibitors alike are reminded:**

*Always wash your hands thoroughly with soap and warm water after contact with animals or their environment — and before eating or drinking.*

Further information specific to the preparation and sale of food and drink is provided in the Food and Catering Safety section below.

## Food and Catering Safety

All exhibitors and traders involved in the preparation, cooking, sampling or sale of food and drink must comply with all relevant food-hygiene and safety legislation, including the Food Safety and Hygiene (England) Regulations 2013. All work must be carried out in a clean, hygienic and orderly manner, following any safety instructions and guidance issued by YAS prior to the Show.

Food outlets, mobile units and catering trailers must hold valid gas and electrical safety certification covering the full Show period, together with up-to-date food-hygiene documentation. All catering and food-handling staff must hold an appropriate level of food-hygiene training, and documentation must be available for inspection at any time.

All food operators must maintain a clean and safe working environment, ensure safe storage and temperature control of food, and use personal protective equipment (PPE) provided in accordance with training and company policy. Operators are responsible for implementing suitable fire precautions and for acting upon the findings of their Fire Risk Assessment, particularly where cooking equipment, hot oils or gas appliances are in use.

The Show Coordinator will liaise with catering and food concession operators to verify that these controls are in place and maintained when the Show is open to the public. Any operator found to be non-compliant with these requirements may be instructed to cease trading until remedial action has been taken.

## Occupational Health and Wellbeing

The Yorkshire Agricultural Society (YAS) promotes a positive approach to health and wellbeing for all staff, contractors and exhibitors working at the Show.

Everyone working on site must ensure they are fit to work and take appropriate rest breaks in line with the Working Time Regulations 1998. Fatigue, dehydration and heat stress can significantly increase the risk of accidents.

All persons working outdoors should protect themselves from the sun, wear suitable head coverings and apply sunscreen when necessary. Adequate drinking water and shaded rest areas are available throughout the Showground.

YAS encourages anyone feeling unwell or fatigued to stop work immediately and report to their supervisor or the First Aid team.

Contractors and employers are responsible for monitoring the wellbeing of their staff and ensuring that safe working hours and conditions are maintained during the build-up, open and breakdown phases.

## Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and Tools

The Yorkshire Agricultural Society (YAS) provides suitable PPE and tools to its permanent and temporary staff based on the risk assessments for their work activities.

All exhibitors and contractors are responsible for supplying their own PPE and tools, appropriate to the work being undertaken. PPE must meet current safety standards and be used in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions and site safety rules.

Everyone working on site — whether staff, contractors, or exhibitors — is responsible for using PPE correctly and consistently at all times.

Failure to wear or use the required protective equipment may result in work being stopped and access withdrawn until compliance is achieved.

## Working at Height, Lifting Operations and Plant / Machinery Safety

The Yorkshire Agricultural Society (YAS) requires that all work at height and all lifting operations carried out on the Showground are properly planned, supervised and undertaken by competent persons using suitable and well-maintained equipment. Exhibitors, contractors and employees must take all reasonably practicable steps to avoid work at height wherever possible. Where it cannot be avoided, appropriate control measures such as safe access equipment, guardrails or fall arrest systems must be used to prevent falls and injuries.

All ladders, scaffolds, towers and access equipment must be suitable for the task, securely positioned and inspected prior to use. Work areas should be kept tidy, with materials and tools prevented from falling onto people below. Weather conditions must be taken into account, and work at height should stop during high winds or other unsafe circumstances.

All lifting equipment and accessories, including cranes, telehandlers, slings and hoists, must be operated only by trained and authorised personnel in accordance with the Lifting Operations and Lifting Equipment Regulations 1998 (LOLER). Lifting operations must be properly planned to ensure that loads are secure, routes are clear, and no person is permitted to stand under a suspended load. All lifting gear must have current inspection and test certificates available for examination on request.

Mobile plant and machinery, such as forklifts, tractors and MEWPs, must be used and maintained in accordance with the Provision and Use of Work Equipment Regulations 1998 (PUWER). Operators must hold relevant training and authorisation, wear seat belts where provided and adhere to all on-site traffic routes and speed limits. Particular care must be taken when manoeuvring in pedestrian areas or near structures, and machines must not be left unattended while running.

Contractors are responsible for ensuring that their risk assessments and method statements (RAMS) adequately address work at height, lifting operations and plant use during build-up, open and breakdown periods of the Show. YAS reserves the right to stop any work that is considered unsafe or non-compliant with this guidance.

### Forklift Trucks (FLT), MEWPs and Mobile Plant Equipment

Only authorised and competent operators with a current licence or certificate for the specific class of vehicle or plant may operate Forklift Trucks (FLTs), Mobile Elevated Work Platforms (MEWPs), or any other mobile plant on or around the Showground.

All operators must follow manufacturer and site safety guidelines, including:

- Using only rough-terrain forklifts on grass or uneven ground;
- Ensuring that vehicles or plant are safe, maintained and inspected before use;
- Never carrying passengers unless a properly fitted seat is provided; and
- Never exceeding the maximum permitted load or rated capacity of the machine.

Operators must take particular care to avoid collisions with other vehicles, livestock, horses or pedestrians.

All reversing manoeuvres in public areas or during busy build-up/breakdown periods must be controlled by a banksman.

Where fitted, seatbelts or restraining devices must be worn at all times.

Equipment must be switched off, isolated and secured when unattended.

## Storage and Hazardous Substances (COSHH, Fuel and Gas)

The Yorkshire Agricultural Society (YAS) requires all exhibitors, contractors and suppliers to store, handle and use hazardous substances, fuels and gases safely, in accordance with the Control of Substances Hazardous to Health Regulations 2002 (COSHH), the Dangerous Substances and Explosive Atmospheres Regulations 2002 (DSEAR) and the Carriage of Dangerous Goods and Use of Transportable Pressure Equipment Regulations 2009 (CDG 2009).

All chemicals, cleaning agents, paints, fuels and compressed gases brought onto the Showground must be clearly labelled and accompanied by a current Safety Data Sheet. Substances should be kept in their original containers wherever possible and stored in secure, well-ventilated areas away from ignition sources, drains and open flames. Only the minimum quantities necessary for the activity should be kept on site.

Gas cylinders must be stored upright, secured to prevent falling, and fitted with protective valve caps when not in use. They must not be stored inside marquees, livestock buildings or enclosed spaces. Refuelling and decanting should be undertaken only in designated areas and under the supervision of competent persons.

When transporting fuel to site, exhibitors and contractors must comply with the Carriage of Dangerous Goods Regulations 2009 and associated ADR exemptions. Limited quantities of fuel may be carried for the operator's own use without requiring ADR driver or vehicle certification. As a general guide, this includes up to 333 litres of petrol, 1,000 litres of diesel, and typically no more than 20–25 kilograms of LPG (for example, two small 11 kg cylinders). All containers must be UN-approved, kept upright, securely fastened and protected from heat. For small-scale transport of petrol, the Petroleum (Consolidation) Regulations 2014 permit the use of up to 30 litres in suitable containers without a storage licence.

Waste oils, fuels and chemicals must be disposed of responsibly through authorised routes and must never be poured into drains, gullies or onto the

ground. Any spills or leaks must be contained immediately and reported to the Operations Team or Event Safety Officer for clean-up.

Contractors and exhibitors must assess the risks associated with any hazardous materials they bring to site and implement appropriate control measures, including adequate ventilation, spill-control materials and suitable personal protective equipment. YAS reserves the right to prohibit the use or storage of any material considered unsafe or non-compliant with this guidance.

## Environmental Protection, Waste and Sustainability

All exhibitors and contractors must manage waste, water and energy responsibly and in accordance with environmental legislation. Hazardous waste must be disposed of in compliance with the Environmental Protection Act 1990, the Waste (England and Wales) Regulations 2011, and related duty-of-care requirements.

The use of banned single-use plastic items, including plastic cutlery, plates, bowls, trays, straws and polystyrene food or drink containers, is strictly prohibited on the Showground in line with the Environmental Protection (Plastic Plates etc. and Polystyrene Containers) (England) Regulations 2023.

Where practical, exhibitors are expected to use reusable, recyclable or compostable alternatives that meet recognised environmental standards (such as BS EN 13432 for compostable materials).

Packaging should be minimised, and non-recyclable materials avoided wherever possible. Any spills, pollution incidents or contamination risks must be reported immediately to the Facilities Manager or Event Safety Officer to ensure prompt containment and clean-up.

These arrangements form part of the Society's wider sustainability commitments to reduce waste, conserve resources and prevent environmental harm across all event operations.

## Specific Equipment and Activity Controls

### Use of ATVs, ORUVs and Golf Buggies

The use of All-Terrain Vehicles (ATVs), Off-Road Utility Vehicles (ORUVs) and Golf Buggies is strictly controlled.

These vehicles may only be used if authorised in writing by the Yorkshire Agricultural Society (YAS).

Authorised drivers must:

- Hold a full, valid driving licence and be competent to operate the specific vehicle type;
- Wear an approved crash helmet with a fastened chin strap when operating an ATV;
- Carry out a vehicle safety check before use (tyres, lights, brakes, steering, warning devices); and
- Report any damage or defects immediately to a supervisor, the Facilities Manager or Show Reception.

Drivers of Society-owned vehicles will receive a safety briefing from a competent member of the Facilities Team before using a vehicle for the first time.

Operating rules:

- Speed limit: 5 mph (or lower if site conditions require).
- Passengers may only be carried if a seat is provided — never in trailers.
- Take extra care in pedestrian areas; use an alternative route if crowds make driving unsafe.
- Drive responsibly and never engage in dangerous or careless behaviour.
- Golf Buggies must be used only on level, stable ground — avoid steep slopes or rough terrain.
- Reduce speed on wet, slippery or loose surfaces and when turning or approaching bends.
- If in doubt, slow down or stop.

Failure to comply with these requirements may result in authorisation being withdrawn and removal of the vehicle from the Showground.

## Use of E-Scooters and E-Bikes

The use of e-scooters and e-bikes is not permitted anywhere on the Showground, including during build-up and breakdown periods.

If used in surrounding areas such as the vehicle, caravan or camping parks, riders must operate their vehicles safely and legally, and ensure that their use complies with current UK road-traffic legislation.

The Yorkshire Agricultural Society accepts no responsibility for loss, damage or injury resulting from the unlawful or unsafe use of e-scooters or e-bikes on or near the site.

## Flagpoles, Banners and Signs

All flagpoles, banners and signs must be securely installed in line with the manufacturer's instructions and must be of sufficient strength to withstand adverse weather conditions, including high winds.

The use of guy ropes is not permitted.

In the event of strong or deteriorating weather, exhibitors are required to inspect and secure all flagpoles, banners and signs to ensure they remain safe and stable.

The Yorkshire Agricultural Society (YAS) reserves the right to require the removal of any flagpoles, banners or signs considered unsafe, insecure, or causing a nuisance.

Exhibitors will receive text alerts from Event Control if adverse weather conditions are forecast, and must act promptly on any instructions contained in those messages.

The Event Safety Officer (ESO) monitors wind speeds across the site and may instruct the removal or lowering of installations if conditions warrant it.

## Use of Generators

Generators present both fire and carbon-monoxide risks and must be used only in line with the following controls. **The use of petrol-powered generators is strictly prohibited anywhere on the Showground.** Only diesel-fuelled or HVO-equivalent generators are permitted, and these must be positioned in well-ventilated outdoor areas, clear of marquees, livestock buildings and enclosed spaces.

All generators and associated fuel storage must be set up on firm, level ground and fenced or barriered to prevent public access. Exhausts must discharge safely away from people, structures and combustible materials. Equipment must be switched off and allowed to cool before refuelling or maintenance, and fire-fighting equipment appropriate to the fuel type must be kept nearby.

Electrical connections must be made only by competent persons and protected by residual current devices (RCDs). Fuel must be stored in approved containers within the limits set out in the Storage and Hazardous Substances (COSHH, Fuel and Gas) section of this guidance.

YAS reserves the right to stop or disconnect any generator installation that is unsafe, incorrectly positioned or not compliant with this requirement.

## Caravan and Camping Areas

Stand-alone or manufacturer-installed generators are permitted only within designated caravan and camping areas and subject to these conditions:

- Stand-alone generators may operate between 06:00 and 23:00 only. They must be switched off outside these hours to prevent noise nuisance and reduce the risk of carbon-monoxide poisoning.
- Security patrols are authorised to switch off any generator operating outside permitted hours.
- Current test or inspection certificates must be available for inspection on request.
- Stand-alone generators must be positioned safely, away from combustible materials and with exhausts directed clear of tents, caravans or enclosed spaces.

### **Showground**

Stand-alone generators are not permitted inside the Showground.

The Society reserves the right to remove or require the disconnection of any generator that is unsafe, non-compliant, or causing disturbance.

### **Electrical Safety**

All electrical systems, equipment and installations used at the Great Yorkshire Show must be safe, fit for purpose and maintained in accordance with the Electricity at Work Regulations 1989 and relevant IET Wiring Regulations (BS 7671).

Exhibitors and contractors are responsible for ensuring that any portable or fixed electrical equipment they bring onto the Showground has been properly inspected and tested before use. Portable appliances must carry a valid PAT test label or certificate, and any equipment found to be defective, damaged or unsafe must be removed from use immediately.

Cables and leads must be routed to prevent trip hazards and mechanical damage, kept clear of livestock and wet areas, and protected by cable covers or mats where they cross walkways. All temporary wiring and connections must be installed by a competent electrician and protected by residual current devices (RCDs).

Generators and distribution boards must be located in well-ventilated areas, fenced or barriered off where necessary, and provided with suitable fire extinguishers. Refuelling must take place only when equipment is shut down and cool.



YAS reserves the right to inspect electrical installations and disconnect any supply or equipment that is considered unsafe or non-compliant. Exhibitors and contractors are reminded that electrical safety is essential to the overall fire and public safety arrangements for the Show.

## Unmanned Aerial Vehicle's (Drones)

The flying/use of Unmanned Aerial Vehicle's (UAV's/Drones) or other similar devices however operated are not permitted over or within the confines of the Showground or car parks under any circumstances unless authorised in writing first by the Society.

## Temporary Inflatable Play Equipment

Temporary Inflatable Play Equipment (TIPE) is designed to be used at the Show by members of the public for entertainment purposes either as a slide or for bouncing upon. They come in a wide range of sizes and shapes and are designed for use by adults, children or both.

All TIPE intended for use at the Show must be manufactured to British Standard BS EN 14960, have either a numbered PIPA tag or an ADiPs declaration of compliance (Doc) and used in accordance with the guidance outlined in the standard by the operator. An inflatable that does not conform to this standard will not be permitted to be used.

Inflatables must have at least 6 anchor points and all anchor points must be used by the operator, preferably using metal ground stakes with a welded metal 'O' or 'D' ring fitted to the end. If ground stakes cannot be used because of the surface (e.g. tarmac) or if the inflatable is to be used inside a building, then a system of ballast using water or sand barrels weighing at least 163 kg with suitable fixings must be used.

In strong winds inflatables should not be used outside where the maximum wind speed reaches 38 km/h (24 mph) which is Force 5 on the Beaufort Scale. Operators are responsible for monitoring wind speeds in windy weather using an anemometer. If one of these is not available, the inflatable should not be operated.

The Society reserves the right to request that any TIPE is taken down if they are unsafe or a nuisance. Operators must complete a risk assessment and safe method of operation prior to the Show which must be approved by the Society.

## Use of Glass Containers and Bottles

To maintain safety across the Showground, glass containers are restricted.

Alcoholic drinks served for consumption on or off the premises must be supplied in plastic or polycarbonate containers only.

Soft drinks and bottled beverages must be decanted into plastic containers before being served for consumption on site.

Sealed glass bottles may only be sold by trade stands for home consumption or off-site use.

Visitors and exhibitors must not walk around the Showground, car parks or caravan and camping areas with drinks in glass bottles or glasses.

Any bottles or glasses found in these areas will be confiscated for safety reasons.

## Sale or Display of Firearms, Imitation Firearms & Pellet Guns

The sale or display of firearms, imitation firearms or pellet guns is not permitted on a trade stand. In addition, the sale of toy or replica guns that emit the sounds of gunfire or similar, or give the appearance of, or could be mistaken for a firearm is not permitted.

## Sale or Display of Knives

The sale or display of the following type of knives is prohibited on trade stands. This includes but is not limited to military style combat, hunting or field, spring assisted, folding or lock, utility, everyday carry, or any other knives not listed that contravene UK knife legislation.

Any contravention of this policy and the regulations outlined may result in enforcement action being taken by North Yorkshire Council Environmental Health Officers and/or the North Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Fire Safety Officer.

# Animal Related Safety

## Livestock Safety and Welfare

The Yorkshire Agricultural Society (YAS) is committed to maintaining the highest standards of animal welfare, biosecurity and public safety at the Great Yorkshire

Show. All livestock exhibitors, contractors and handlers must comply with this Policy, the Society's Livestock Regulations, and all relevant legislation in force at the time of the event.

## Animal Welfare Standards

All exhibitors must comply with the Animal Welfare Act 2006, the Welfare of Farmed Animals (England) Regulations 2007, and the Animal Health Act 1981.

Animals must be handled and housed in a manner that prevents pain, injury, suffering or distress. Any act of cruelty, neglect or mistreatment will result in removal from the Show and may be referred to Trading Standards, APHA, or the RSPCA.

## Fitness to Travel

Under Council Regulation (EC) 1/2005 and the Welfare of Animals (Transport) (England) Order 2006, all livestock must be fit for transport and the journey must not cause unnecessary suffering. Vehicles and trailers must be maintained in a safe condition and operated by competent handlers.

Animals in late pregnancy (over 90% gestation) or that have given birth within the previous seven days must not be transported to the Show.

## Biosecurity and Health

The Animal Gatherings (England) Order 2010 requires that only healthy animals are brought to events.

Animals showing signs of infectious or contagious disease, including ringworm, respiratory or digestive illness, must not be brought onto the Showground.

The Society's Veterinary Surgeons have authority to inspect and, if necessary, remove any animal considered unfit or likely to pose a biosecurity risk. Exhibitors must ensure that livestock vehicles are cleaned and disinfected before and after use.

## Control and Supervision

Livestock must remain under the control of competent handlers at all times. Approved restraints such as halters, nose rings or crushes must be used where appropriate and kept in good condition.

Bulls aged ten months or over must have a nose ring fitted. Handlers in breed and commercial classes must be at least fourteen years of age. In young handler classes, children under fourteen must be directly supervised by a competent adult capable of controlling the animal in an emergency.

Movement of livestock should be kept to a minimum when the Show is open to the public and restricted to designated routes between lines, rings and wash areas.

## Emergency Veterinary Treatment

It is a condition of entry that the Society's appointed Veterinary Surgeons may examine and treat any animal in an emergency, whether or not the owner is present.

The cost of all treatment and medication remains the responsibility of the exhibitor or owner. The Veterinary Surgeon's decision as to an animal's fitness to remain on site is final.

## Public and Exhibitor Safety Around Livestock

Exhibitors must take all reasonable steps to protect the public from injury when viewing or approaching livestock. Barriers or secure pens must be used where animals are adjacent to public areas.

Clear signage and hygiene facilities must be provided in accordance with HSE AIS23 – Avoiding ill health at open farms.

Visitors and exhibitors should avoid eating, drinking or smoking in animal areas.

Livestock areas must be kept clean and free from faecal contamination to reduce the risk of zoonotic infection such as E. coli O157 and Cryptosporidium.

## Equine Riders – Head Protection (Hard Hats)

For the safety of all riders, approved head protection must be worn at all times while mounted on the Showground or in any exercise area.

All helmets or skull caps must conform to one of the following current recognised safety standards for equestrian activities:

- PAS 015
- VG1
- (BS) EN1384:2017
- ASTM F1163:04a onwards

- SNELL E2001 or SNELL E2016
- AS/NZS 3838:2003 onwards

Riders aged 15 to 17 years must also wear correctly secured skull caps or riding hats that meet one of the above standards.

Helmets must be properly fitted, with the chin strap fastened securely at all times while mounted, including during competitions, demonstrations, and exercising.

The most recent approved standards include SNELL E2016 and EN1384:2017, effective from 2018.

Riders who fail to comply with this requirement may not be permitted to compete or exercise horses on the Showground.

### Insurance and Indemnity

All livestock exhibitors must hold Public Liability Insurance with a minimum indemnity of £2 million, covering livestock, equipment and activities for the duration of the event, including build-up and breakdown.

Exhibitors are responsible for the actions of their animals, handlers and contractors, and must indemnify the Yorkshire Agricultural Society against any loss, damage or injury arising from their participation or non-compliance with this Policy.

### Disinfection of Livestock Transport

All workers involved in the disinfection of livestock vehicles must be made aware of the risks associated with this task by the contractor or employer responsible for the operation.

The designated disinfection area must be:

- Maintained in a clean, safe and accessible condition;
- Operated using equipment that is safe and properly maintained; and
- Managed under a documented Safe System of Work, including clear instructions for the use of personal protective equipment (PPE).

Where any hazardous substances (such as disinfectants or cleaning agents) are used, a risk assessment must be completed in accordance with the Control of Substances Hazardous to Health (COSHH) Regulations 2002.

Operators must ensure that suitable PPE — such as waterproof gloves, eye protection and respiratory protection where required — is provided, worn and

maintained. Any defects or spills must be reported immediately to a supervisor or to YAS staff.

## Relevant Guidance and References

- Animal Welfare Act 2006
- Animal Health Act 1981
- Welfare of Farmed Animals (England) Regulations 2007
- Welfare of Animals (Transport) (England) Order 2006
- Animal Gatherings (England) Order 2010
- DEFRA – Code of Practice for the Welfare of Cattle (2020)
- HSE AIS23 – Avoiding ill health at open farms

## Open Fires and Fireworks

Open fires are strictly prohibited anywhere on the Showground, including all camping and caravan areas.

The use of fireworks, pyrotechnics or similar devices is also prohibited within the confines of the site.

Any person found to be using or in possession of fireworks will be removed from the Showground and may be excluded from future events.

## Smoke-Free Policy (Including E-Cigarettes and Vapes)

All enclosed and substantially enclosed areas of the Showground are designated Smoke-Free Zones, in compliance with the Smoke-Free (Premises and Enforcement) Regulations 2006. This applies to all forms of smoking, including e-cigarettes and vapes.

This prohibition applies to:

- All permanent buildings;
- Temporary structures, tents and marquees;
- Stables and livestock lines (cattle, sheep, pig and goat); and
- The Main Ring and White Rose Ring Grandstands.

Smoking is permitted only in open outdoor spaces. Exhibitors or visitors who breach this regulation may be asked to leave and may be excluded from future Shows.

Safety Stewards and Security Officers are responsible for enforcing the Smoke-Free Policy on behalf of the Society.

In addition, the use of e-cigarettes and vapes is strongly discouraged anywhere on the Showground. The nicotine compounds and refill liquids used in these devices are toxic and may pose a serious risk to small animals if spilled or ingested.

## Accident Reporting and Investigation

All injury accidents, illnesses and first-aid treatments will be recorded by the appointed medical contractor in the on-site accident report book. The Event Safety Officer (ESO) will be notified of every case and will coordinate any follow-up action or investigation.

All accidents, near-misses and dangerous occurrences must be reported immediately to the ESO, Operations Manager or a member of YAS staff as soon as it is safe to do so.

Reports should include as much detail as possible about what happened, who was involved and any contributing factors.

Every report will be reviewed and, where necessary, investigated in full to ensure accurate records are kept and that lessons are learned.

The ESO is responsible for recording and submitting any RIDDOR-reportable incidents in accordance with the Reporting of Injuries, Diseases and Dangerous Occurrences Regulations 2013.

## Violent, Abusive or Threatening Behaviour

The Yorkshire Agricultural Society (YAS) has a zero-tolerance policy towards violent, abusive or threatening behaviour.

The Society reserves the right to refuse entry to, or remove from the Showground, any individual—including exhibitors, contractors, visitors or competitors—who:

- Is intoxicated or under the influence of drugs;
- Uses abusive, threatening or discriminatory language or behaviour; or
- Acts in a way that endangers others or disrupts the safe operation of the Show.

In such cases, the Police may be called, and those involved may be excluded from future Shows or YAS events.

## Risk Assessment

The Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations 1999 require every employer, contractor and self-employed person to assess the risks to anyone affected by their work activities and to take appropriate measures to prevent harm.

This process — known as a risk assessment — helps identify what could cause injury or illness, how likely it is to happen, and what control measures are needed to eliminate or reduce the risk so far as is reasonably practicable.

When completing a risk assessment, exhibitors and contractors must:

- Identify any hazards that could cause harm;
- Assess the risks associated with those hazards; and
- Identify and implement suitable control measures to remove or minimise the risks.

A *hazard* is anything with the potential to cause harm.

A *risk* exists when someone could be exposed to that hazard.

*Control* measures are the actions or safeguards used to prevent harm from occurring.

The purpose of these assessments is to ensure that all activities carried out at the Great Yorkshire Show — by exhibitors, contractors, employees or volunteers — are safe, properly planned and compliant with current health and safety law.

All exhibitors and contractors required to provide risk assessments will have been notified in advance and must submit a suitable and sufficient assessment before the Show opens. This includes any additional assessments requested during build-up or breakdown.

The Yorkshire Agricultural Society (YAS) has prepared its own overarching risk assessment covering the general hazards and control measures for the build-up, open and breakdown periods of the Show.



Copies of this assessment can be made available on request from the Operations Manager.

All submitted risk assessments are legal documents and may be referred to in the event of an investigation or claim arising from an incident on the Showground.

Failure to provide a suitable risk assessment or to follow the control measures identified may result in work being stopped and passes or access being withdrawn.

## Hierarchy of Control

When assessing risks, control measures must follow the recognised Hierarchy of Control, which ranks the most effective ways to reduce or remove hazards.

The aim is to eliminate or substitute risks wherever possible and rely on personal protective equipment (PPE) only as a last resort.

| Level | Control Measure                            | Meaning and Examples                                                                                                                        |
|-------|--------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1     | <b>Eliminate</b>                           | Remove the hazard completely so no risk remains.<br>Example: use pre-assembled structures to avoid working at height.                       |
| 2     | <b>Substitute</b>                          | Replace the hazard with something less risky.<br>Example: use battery-powered tools instead of petrol ones, or non-toxic cleaning products. |
| 3     | <b>Engineer</b>                            | Isolate people from the hazard through design or equipment. Example: install barriers, guards, or use remote operation.                     |
| 4     | <b>Administrative</b>                      | Change how work is organised to reduce exposure.<br>Example: rotate tasks, use supervision, training, or warning signage.                   |
| 5     | <b>Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)</b> | Use protective gear to reduce harm if a hazard remains. Example: gloves, goggles, helmets, or safety boots.                                 |

Exhibitors and contractors must ensure that risk assessments reflect this order of priority — always aiming to eliminate or substitute risks before relying on PPE.

# Guidance Notes for Completing Risk Assessments

## Introduction

It is a legal requirement under the Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations 1999 that all exhibitors and contractors carry out a suitable and sufficient risk assessment covering the activities they intend to undertake at the Great Yorkshire Show.

Completed risk assessments must be submitted to the Show and Trade Stands Officer (STSO) before arriving on site.

The STSO is available to provide further advice or clarification if required prior to submission.

Failure to complete and return a suitable risk assessment will result in passes and tickets being withheld, and entry to the Show may be refused until satisfactory documentation is received.

## Who Must Complete a Risk Assessment

These Guidance Notes apply to:

- All Trade Stand Exhibitors;
- Persons responsible for activities within temporary structures and marquees; and
- Operators of multi-occupancy units or shared exhibition spaces.

Each exhibitor and contractor is responsible for identifying the hazards associated with their own display, products, equipment or work activity and for setting out the control measures needed to eliminate or reduce risk to an acceptable level.

## During the Build-Up and Show Period

All Trade Exhibitors will be visited by YAS representatives during the build-up and Show period to confirm that the control measures detailed in their risk assessments are in place and being followed.

Where unsafe conditions or practices are identified:

- Immediate corrective action will be required.

- Failure to comply may result in a Prohibition Notice being issued, preventing further trading or use of the stand until compliance is achieved.

The Society reserves the right to close or remove any trade stand or contractor found to be operating in a manner that presents a risk to health, safety or welfare.

## Machinery and Equipment

Exhibitors must include in their risk assessment details of any machinery or equipment being displayed, specifying whether it will be operational or isolated from its power source.

All machinery on display or in use must:

- Comply with the relevant British or European Standards;
- Be used strictly in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions; and
- Have all safety guards, interlocks and covers correctly fitted and operational at all times.

Machinery used for demonstrations must be operated by competent personnel only and be positioned to prevent access by the public to any moving parts or hazardous areas.

Where required, suitable barriers or screens must be installed to protect visitors and nearby exhibitors.

## Liquid Petroleum Gas (LPG)

LPG may be used only on external displays as a source of energy for machinery or cooking appliances.

The use of LPG within internal stands, enclosed marquees or buildings is not permitted.

If you intend to use LPG, your risk assessment must include:

- The specific use of LPG (e.g. cooking, heating, demonstration);
- The volume stored and in use; and
- The storage location and method of securing cylinders.

Storage requirements:

- LPG cylinders must be a maximum of 15kg each, and stored upright on a firm, level surface.

- If stored in a separate location, the area must be fenced or barriered off, and cylinders must be staked or supported to prevent falling.
- Cylinders must not be stored in private vehicles on or around the Showground.
- Gas appliances, regulators, hoses and fittings must all conform to current UK safety standards and be fit for purpose.

The Show and Trade Stands Officer (STSO) must be notified in advance of all LPG use and storage arrangements.

## Electrical Appliances, Supply and PAT Testing

Exhibitors must include in their risk assessment details of all electrical equipment and its intended use.

All portable electrical appliances must have a valid Portable Appliance Test (PAT) certificate dated within six months of the Show.

All electrical installations and equipment are subject to inspection by the on-site electrical contractor, who has authority to restrict or prohibit the use of any unsafe equipment.

The following rules apply:

- No unauthorised modifications may be made to the mains supply or electrical components.
- Any damage or fault must be reported immediately to the Facilities Office.
- Faulty equipment must not be used until it has been repaired or replaced.

## Compressed Air

If your display or equipment uses compressed air or gas, you must include details in your risk assessment.

This includes any compressors, pressurised systems, or stored-air equipment.

All hoses, valves and fittings must be of the correct pressure rating and maintained in good condition.

Air compressors must be fitted with appropriate safety devices and operated by trained, competent personnel only.

## Live or Practical Demonstrations

If you intend to run a live or practical demonstration, full details must be submitted in advance to the Show and Trade Stands Officer (STSO) for approval.

You must ensure that:

- The demonstration is risk-assessed and properly controlled;
- Barriers, guards or exclusion zones are in place to protect the public;
- Competent staff are present to supervise at all times; and
- Safe systems of work are followed, particularly in areas such as the Cattle Clipping Area or other live displays.

Public safety is the priority — demonstrations may be modified or stopped by YAS staff if considered unsafe.

## Exhibitor Catering

If you provide any food or drink to visitors — whether sold or offered free of charge — you must comply with all relevant food hygiene legislation and Harrogate Borough Council Environmental Health requirements.

- Anyone preparing or handling food must hold, as a minimum, a Basic Food Hygiene Certificate (or equivalent).
- All cooking, serving and preparation areas must be kept clean and hygienic.
- Food preparation must take place only on approved stands or adjoining areas and in accordance with your submitted risk assessment.
- Cooking appliances must be installed and operated safely, away from flammable materials, and must have suitable fire extinguishers available nearby.

The Society reserves the right to stop any food preparation or service that does not comply with these standards or presents a risk to health or safety.

## Use of Sharps

Exhibitors must provide details of the proposed use of sharps i.e. tools, knives, axe's, saws, chain saws, needles etc to the STSO. If there is a likely risk to users adequate personal protective equipment must be provided and used and a safe working area must be maintained particularly in respect of visitor safety with the appropriate controls in place.

## Use of Barbecues

The use of barbecues by exhibitors or contractors is not permitted within the showground perimeter unless they form part of a legitimate trade stand demonstration and the necessary safety controls are in place. The STSO must be notified prior to the Show if a barbecue is to be used and approval must be obtained in writing.

Disposable and gas barbecues are not permitted in the Caravan and Camping areas or car parks under any circumstances as they are considered a serious fire risk. This information is outlined in the Caravan, Mobile Home, & Camping Information & Regulations Booklet.

In the event of a fire dial 999 immediately or 01423 546024 (Black Gate) from a mobile phone.

## Working at Height

Working at height is one of the biggest causes of serious or disabling injuries in the UK. All work at height is now subject of a formal risk assessment and SSW. All work off the ground or over an edge is considered to be work at height. Working at height should be avoided whenever possible, however when this is unavoidable a properly constructed working platform or Mobile Elevated Work Platform (MEWP) should be used. Ladders and steps are only suitable for short duration light work and the equipment must be of an industrial specification incorporating the appropriate safeguards and not of the type constructed for light weight domestic use.

All work at height must conform to a written SSW and all exhibitors or contractors must be competent and physically able to carry out the work. Strict controls must be in place including barriers, warning signs and approved harnesses for roof work where appropriate. Fall arrest equipment must be used where there is a risk of falling a distance greater than two metres or where the distance may be less but there remains a significant risk of injury.

Vehicles must not be used as substitute platforms for working at height unless they have been constructed or adapted for this purpose. Precautions must be taken to protect people and property below from falling objects at all times.

All work involving the construction and dismantling of temporary structures and marquees will be managed in accordance with the CDM Regulations 2015.

## Naked Flames

The use of naked flames including candles and other similar items of any type is not permitted on trade stands or multi-occupancy marquees.

## Other Activities

Exhibitors must state clearly on the risk assessment if any activity is intended or may take place which has not already been mentioned on the form and which involves members of the public, overhead activities or hazards, moving vehicles or chemicals, etc.

Having identified the risks, the final part of the risk assessment must now be completed. This involves detailing the measures necessary to reduce or negate the risks and the control measures that will be in place.

# Appendices

Stay Safe Around Animals

Delivering Safely: Driver Safety Information

# STAY SAFE AROUND ANIMALS

Simple steps to keep yourself and others healthy while enjoying the Show

## DO

- **Wash your hands thoroughly with soap and running water** after touching animals or any surfaces in animal areas — and always before eating or drinking.
- **Supervise children closely** to make sure they wash their hands properly.
- **Take extra care if you are pregnant** — avoid contact with lambs, newborn animals, and their bedding or droppings.
- **Wash hands again** after removing footwear used in animal areas.

*Handwashing stations are located near all livestock lines and animal exhibits — please use them before visiting catering or picnic areas*

## DON'T

- Don't **touch your face** or **put fingers in your mouth** after handling animals.
- Don't allow children to put their **faces close to animals**.
- Don't **eat or drink** — including sweets, crisps, or ice cream — while in animal areas.
- Don't eat anything that's been dropped on the floor.
- Don't rely on **hand gels or wipes** — **they are not a substitute** for proper handwashing with **soap and water**.

## WHY IT MATTERS

Farm animals can naturally carry bacteria such as E. coli and Cryptosporidium that can cause illness, especially in young children, pregnant women and older adults.

Washing hands thoroughly with soap and running water is the best way to protect yourself and others.

## QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS?

If you need advice while at the Show, please speak to a **Safety Steward** or a member of **Show staff**.





## Delivering Safely: Driver Safety Information

This information forms part of the Yorkshire Agricultural Society's Health & Safety Policy and applies to all persons driving vehicles on the Great Yorkshire Showground during build-up, Show days, and breakdown.

All drivers delivering items or loading/unloading equipment must comply with the following safety requirements:

- Observe the **5 mph site speed limit** unless indicated otherwise. **Follow all one-way systems, signage and traffic rules** — pedestrians, contractors and animals may be present.
- **Follow instructions** from gate staff, stewards or Facilities personnel **at all times**.
- Use **designated access routes only**. After unloading, remove your vehicle immediately.
- Only park or unload where it is safe to do so and where non-essential persons are excluded.
- The use of **mobile phones while driving** on site is strictly prohibited.
- High-visibility clothing and suitable footwear must be worn when outside your vehicle.
- If plant or Forklift Truck (FLT) assistance is required, it must be booked in advance through the YAS Facilities Section on 01423 546212.
- Any **incident, collision or near miss** must be **reported immediately** to the Event Safety Officer (ESO) via Event Control (01423 546024) or to the nearest steward or Facilities representative.
- **Reversing must be avoided** wherever possible. If unavoidable, manoeuvres must be assisted by a competent banksman wearing hi-vis. Hazard beacons and reversing alarms must be used.
- Drivers must **ensure that loads are secured** in accordance with the Department for Transport Code of Practice for Load Security (2020). Curtainsider curtains alone are not sufficient for load restraint.
- **Engines must be switched off** when vehicles are stationary to reduce emissions and noise.
- Non-essential passengers and pets must remain in vehicles during loading/unloading.
- All vehicles entering the Showground must be **roadworthy, insured**, and driven by a **licensed, competent** driver.

For assistance with deliveries or site access, contact the YAS Facilities Section on 01423 546212 or Event Control on 01423 546024.



## Visitors' Code of Conduct

*Keeping everyone safe, happy and respectful*

### Welcome

The Yorkshire Agricultural Society looks forward to welcoming you to the 2026 Great Yorkshire Show.

We want everyone to enjoy their visit in a safe, friendly and respectful environment.

Please take a moment to read and follow this simple Code of Conduct.

By entering the Showground, you agree to follow these rules and any directions given by staff or stewards.

### Be Considerate

- Follow all signage, steward directions and announcements.
- Treat staff, stewards, exhibitors and other visitors with courtesy and respect.
- Anti-social, aggressive or unsafe behaviour will not be tolerated – the Society reserves the right to refuse admission or remove anyone acting irresponsibly.

### Health & Hygiene

- Do not attend if you feel unwell or have been advised to avoid large events.
- If you become ill on site, tell a steward or go directly to the **Medical Centre** for assistance.
- Wash your hands regularly with soap and water, especially after using toilets, before eating, and after touching animals.
- Use the handwashing and sanitiser stations provided, and let a steward know if any need attention.
- Keep the Showground clean – please dispose of litter in the bins provided.

### Children & Families

- Children must always be supervised by a responsible adult.
- Unaccompanied children under 12 will not be admitted.
- Parents and guardians should make sure children understand safety around animals, vehicles and machinery.

### Animals

- Follow hygiene signs in livestock areas.

- **Do not eat, drink or smoke** near animals.
- Always wash your hands with soap and running water after animal contact.
- Hand gels are not a substitute for proper handwashing.

## Travel & Weather

- Plan your journey in advance and follow steward instructions on arrival.
- Allow extra time at entrances – **entry is by advance ticket only**.
- Wear suitable clothing and footwear for the weather.
- In hot weather, keep hydrated and use sun protection.

## Alcohol & Behaviour

- Alcohol will not be sold to anyone under 18 or to anyone who appears intoxicated.
- Visitors must not bring excessive alcohol or behave in a way that causes nuisance or risk to others.

## Need Help?

If you need assistance or see someone who does:

- Speak to the nearest **steward, security officer** or **member of staff**.
- In an emergency, follow steward instructions and move calmly to the nearest safe area or exit.

Thank you for playing your part in keeping the Great Yorkshire Show safe and enjoyable for everyone.

This Code of Conduct forms part of the Operational Plan for the 2026

## Site Safety

|                                                                                                                                                                            |                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                                                                                           | <b>Construction Activities Beyond this Point</b><br>Please refer to Site Rules. Copies are available from the Operations Manager or Facilities Office                                                     |
| <br><br> | <b>No Unauthorised Persons or Vehicles Beyond this Point</b><br>Children must be accompanied by adult and closely supervised<br><br><b>No Dogs Permitted on Site</b><br>(except Assistance dogs)          |
|                                                                                          | <b>Vehicle Movements on the Showground</b><br>Unloading must only take place in designated areas<br>Drivers & Pedestrians must take care                                                                  |
|                                                                                         | <b>Site Speed Limit – 5 mph</b><br>Large Vehicles Must Not Reverse Without Supervision<br>Vehicles must be parked to avoid causing an obstruction<br>Vehicles Parked in Unauthorised Areas may be Removed |
|                                                                                         | <b>Accidents</b><br>All Accidents must be Reported to the Event Safety Officer as soon as practicable on the number below                                                                                 |
|                                                                                         | <b>Assistance</b><br>If in doubt please contact the YAS Reception on 01423 541000 before entering the site                                                                                                |



## PROTOCOL FOR BREAKING UP A DOG FIGHT

This protocol applies where a dog fight occurs on the Showground. Owners, exhibitors, hunt staff and stewards should take all reasonable steps to follow the actions below. The safety of people and animals is the priority.

### Immediate actions (first 60 seconds)

**Call for help.** Alert nearby stewards and Event Control immediately. If possible ask an assistant to call Event Control / Security and the on-site Veterinary Contact.

**Keep bystanders away.** Remove un-involved dogs and keep members of the public (especially children) at a safe distance. Stewards should form a barrier to maintain a safe exclusion zone.

**Use noise and water first.** Make a loud noise (yell, clap, high-pitched alarm) and, if safe, spray the dogs with water. Use a high-pitched panic alarm, whistle or vehicle horn rather than physical interference where possible.

**Do not put hands near mouths.** Never reach into the dogs' mouths or attempt to prise jaws open with your hands.

### If physical separation is necessary

**Work in pairs where possible.** Two people working together are much safer than one. The preferred technique is the **wheelbarrow** technique: each helper grasps the hindquarters (just forward of the back legs where they join the body), lift and pull backwards and slightly apart so the dogs lose purchase. Move decisively — do not attempt to raise a dog by its lower legs or tail.

**Single-operator options.** If you are alone and cannot get assistance, attempt to startle the dogs (noise/water). If this fails, identify the main aggressor and attempt to remove or distract that dog (wheelbarrow technique where possible) — only if you can do so without putting yourself at unacceptable risk.

**If a dog is latched on (bite hold):** Assess whether the bitten dog's airway or breathing is compromised. If not life-threatening, avoid pulling the dogs apart forcefully — try to distract the aggressor with food, water, or by coaxing with the collar and moving it away. If the airway is at risk or the victim is collapsing, emergency action to force release may be necessary; call for immediate assistance and prepare to intervene using any available safe aids (blanket/coat over head, wheelbarrow technique, long pole to separate) — but only as a last resort and bearing in mind the welfare of both animals and personal safety.

**Note:** Use of catch poles, muzzles, or other control equipment should only be attempted by trained personnel. Do not use makeshift devices that may cause additional injury.

## After separation — safety, welfare & reporting

**Secure each dog separately.** Place each dog on a short lead, move them to a quiet, secure area under control of their handler, and keep them apart.

**Check for injuries & seek veterinary care.** Any animal with any sign of puncture wounds, blood, pain, breathing difficulty, or collapse must be seen by a vet immediately. If a vet is not available on site, arrange urgent transport to the nearest veterinary practice and inform Event Control.

**Attend to any injured persons.** If a person is bitten or injured, provide first aid, call medical staff or the Medical Centre and record the incident. If staff are injured, follow normal incident reporting and, if required, RIDDOR reporting procedures.

**Collect information and evidence.** Record owner/handler name and contact details, dog description and identification (microchip if provided), time and precise location, witness names, photos of injuries and the scene, and any CCTV or steward observations. Event Control should log the incident.

**Immediate sanctions.** YAS reserves the right to exclude or require the immediate removal of any dog that presents a danger to the public or other animals. Where appropriate, owners may be required to demonstrate insurance, vaccination status and evidence of competent handling.

**Follow up.** Stewards/Event Control complete an incident report, preserve any evidence (photos, CCTV clips) and liaise with the Show Veterinary Surgeon, insurers and the relevant enforcing authority if required. Owners should be advised to seek veterinary treatment and may need to provide evidence of vaccination and insurance.